

# JOURNAL

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PROCEEDINGS of CONGRESS,

HELD AT PHILADELPHIA,

From *September* 5, 1775, to *April* 30, 1776.

*K American Continental Congress*



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# JOURNAL, &c.

*Wednesday, September 5, 1775.*

A GREEABLE to adjournment; the President and a number of the Members met, but there not being sufficient to enter upon business, the Congress was adjourned from day to day until Wednesday the 13th.

*Wednesday, September 13, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The province of Georgia having appointed delegates to represent that colony in Congress. and three of the delegates attending; their credentials were produced, read and approved, and are as follows,

*Georgia.*

The alarming and critical situation of affairs upon the continent of America having at length roused the attention of this province, and the several inhabitants thereof being desirous of uniting with their sister colonies in the great and important cause, a general election was held throughout the province for delegates to sit in Provincial Congress; and the said delegates having so met in Savannah on the fourth day of July, proceeded upon the consideration of such business, as appeared to be fit and necessary; and among other things they made choice of five delegates to represent this province in the grand Continental Congress, now sitting in Philadelphia, viz,

Archibald Bullock, } Esqrs.  
and John Houston, }

The Revd. Doctor Zubly,

Noble Wimberly Jones, } Esqrs.  
and Lyman Hale, }

Now therefore be it known, and we the several delegates for the different parishes and districts in this province, in Provincial Congress assembled, do hereby declare the said Archibald Bullock and John Houston, Esqrs. the Revd. Doctor Zubly, Noble Wimberly Jones and Lyman Hall, Esqrs. duly and fairly elected, as the delegates for this province; and we do authorize and require the said Archibald Bullock and John Houston, Esqrs. the Revd. Doctor Zubly, Noble Wimberly Jones and Lyman Hall, Esqrs. or any three of them, immediately to repair to the said city of Philadelphia, and there to take their seats as the representatives of the province of Georgia, in the General Congress now sitting, to do, transact, join and concur with the several delegates from the other colonies and provinces upon this continent, in all such matters and things, as shall appear eligible and fit, at this alarming time, for the preservation and defence of our rights and liberties; and for the restoration of harmony upon constitutional

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tional principles between Great-Britain and America.

And we give and grant to the said Archibald Bullock and John Houstoun, Esqrs. the Revd. Doctor Zubly, Noble Wimberly Jones and Lyman Hall, Esqrs. or any three of them, in whose fidelity, honor and ability we very much confide, our full and whole power in the premises; and do promise and engage in behalf of ourselves and our constituents respectively, (the inhabitants of the province of Georgia) under the sacred ties of virtue, honor, and love of our country, to abide by, enforce and carry into execution, or endeavour at the risque and expence of life and property, so to do, all and whatsoever our said delegates or any three of them, in concurrence with the rest of the delegates from the several colonies and provinces upon this continent, shall resolve and agree upon, or, as shall be agreed and resolved upon by the said Continental Congress now sitting in Philadelphia aforesaid, while our said delegates or any three of them shall be so sitting.

Signed in Provincial Congress this fifteenth day, of July; 1775, by 53 members.

The delegates from Virginia appointed by a convention of that colony, at Richmond, August 11, 1775, produced their credentials, which were read and approved as follows,

*Virginia.* In Convention, August 11, 1775

The convention being about to proceed to the choice of deputies to represent this colony in General Congress, Edmund Pendleton, Esq; expressed his most grateful acknowledgements for the honor done him in two former appointments to that important trust, but, on account of the declining state of his health, entreated to be excused from the present nomination, which excuse being accepted.

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this convention are justly due to George Washington, Patrick Henry and Edmund Pendleton, Esqrs. three of the worthy deputies, who represented this colony in the late Continental Congress, for their faithful discharge of that important trust, and this body are only induced to dispense with their future services of the like nature, by the appointment of the two former to other offices in the public service, incompatible with their attendance on this, and the infirm state of health of the latter.

The convention then proceeded to the appointment of deputies to represent this colony in General Congress for one year, and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the deputies to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot-box, Mr Robert Carter Nicholas, Mr Cary, Mr Pendleton and Mr. Adams were appointed to examine the ballot-box, and report upon whom the majority fell, who retired, and after some time returned into convention and reported, that they had according to order examined the ballot-box, and that the numbers appeared as follows:

For the Hon. P. Randolph, Esq; 89  
Richard Henry Lee Esq; 88  
Thomas Jefferson, Esq; 85  
Benjamin Harrison, Esq; 83  
Thomas Nelson, Esq; 66  
Richard Bland, Esq; 61  
George Wythe, Esq; 58

Resolved, That the said Peyton Randolph, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Richard Bland, George Wythe, Esqrs. be appointed deputies to represent this colony in General Congress for one year, and that they have power to meet and to adjourn for such time and to such place or places as may be thought most proper.

Resolved, That the said deputies

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or any four of them be a sufficient number to represent this colony,

*Saturday, August 12, 1775.*

Richard Bland, Esq; returned this convention his most grateful acknowledgments for the great honor, they had pleased a third time to confer on him, by appointing him one of the deputies to represent this colony in General Congress, and said this fresh instance of their approbation was sufficient for an old man, almost deprived of sight, whose greatest ambition had ever been to receive the plaudit of his country, whenever he should retire from the public stage of life; That the honourable testimony he lately received of this approbation, joined with his present appointment, should ever animate him, as far as he was able, to support the glorious cause in which America is now engaged, but that his advanced age rendered him incapable of taking an active part in those weighty and important concerns, which must necessarily be agitated in the great council of the United Colonies, and therefore begging leave to decline the honor they had been pleased to confer on him, and desiring that some person more fit and able might supply his place.

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this convention are justly due to the said Richard Bland, Esq; one of the worthy deputies, who represented this colony in the late Continental Congress, for his faithful discharge of that important trust, and this body are only induced to dispense with his future services of the like nature, on account of his advanced age.

*Sunday, August 15, 1775.*

The convention proceeded to the appointment of a deputy to represent this colony in General Congress, in the room of Richard Bland, Esq; who hath resigned, and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the deputy to be appointed,

a committee was appointed to examine the ballot-box and report on whom the majority fell, who retired and after some time reported, that the numbers stood as follows:

Francis Lightfoot Lee, Esq; 37  
Carter Braxton, Esq; 36

Resolved, That the said Francis Lightfoot Lee, Esq; be appointed a deputy to represent this colony in General Congress.

Signed, JOHN TAZEWELL,

Clerk of the Convention.

The delegates from Maryland also produced the credentials of this appointment, which were read and approved as follows:

At a meeting of the delegates appointed by the several counties of the province of Maryland, at the city of Annapolis, on Wednesday the 26th of July 1775, and continued till the 14th day of August in the same year.

Resolved, That the honourable Matthew Tilghman, Esq; and Thomas Johnson, jun, Robert Goldsborough, William Paca, Samuel Chace, Thomas Stone, and John Hall, Esqrs. or any three or more of them be deputies to represent this province in Continental Congress, and that they or any three or more of them have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures, which such Congress shall deem necessary and effectual to obtain a redress of American grievances; and Further we do authorise our said deputies to represent and act for this province in any Continental Congress, which may be held before the 25th day of March next.

Signed, G. DAVALL, Clerk.

The Congress being informed that only 172,520 dollars have been transmitted to the paymaster general for the use of the army in the Massachusetts-Bay, and that the general was under great difficulty for want of money.

Ordered, That the delegates for Pennsylvania do immediately send,  
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under a proper guard, to the paymaster general, for the use of the army in the Massachusetts-bay, the sum of 527,480 dollars, which with that lent will make up the sum of 700,000 dollars voted at the last session.

Sundry letters received during the recess of Congress were produced and read, viz.

Two from General Washington, No. 4 and 5, with sundry enclosed papers, four from General Schuyler 16th and 21st of July and 2d and 31st of August, with sundry papers enclosed.

One from Messrs L. Morris and J. Wilson of 6th September.

One from G. Bedford, deputy muster master general, with enclosed papers.

Also a letter from the deputies of the several districts in the island of Bermuda, dated 12th of August, with an account of the provisions imported and expended in that island for three years last past, taken from the custom-house books, and an estimate of the provisions necessary for the support of the inhabitants for one year.

A memorial from James Stewart and Samuel Jackson, owners of the ship *Friendship*, Thomas Jann, master, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth that the said ship, on the 28th of August last, sailed from Maryland with a cargo of tobacco, but being overtaken by the late storm, she was driven on shoals and much damaged, and got into Hampton road, with the loss of all her masts, and praying that the memorialists may be allowed to unload said ship, and that after being refitted she may take the said cargo on board and proceed on her voyage.

The Congress taking into consideration the above memorial.

Resolved, That the said cargo be unloaded under the inspection of the committee of Norfolk, and that the

said ship being refitted be allowed to take said cargo on board again and proceed on her voyage, and in case on examination, the said ship is condemned as unfit for sea, that the said cargo be put on board some other vessel, under the inspection of the committee aforesaid and exported.

Information being given to Congress that Dr. Franklin had on board the Mary and Elizabeth, Capt. N. Falconer from London, sundry cases containing his books, papers and household furniture, which were in his use when he lived in London, and which were imported for his own use and not for sale; and it being submitted to the consideration of the Congress, whether such importation is comprehended within the first article of the association,

Resolved, That such importation is not to be comprehended within the meaning of the said first article of the association, and that the said books, papers and furniture, may be landed and delivered to the owner.

A memorial from the committee of the county of Westmoreland in the province of Pennsylvania was presented and read.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, September 14, 1775.*

A number of letters received by several members, during the recess of Congress, being produced were read.

First, A letter from Joseph Hawley, Esq; excusing his not acting as a commissioner for Indian affairs, on account of his bad state of health.

Second, A letter from Elisha Phelps, appointed a commissary for the northern army by governor Trumbull, in pursuance of an order of Congress, together with a copy of his commission and appointment.

Third, A letter from J. Read, Esq; Secretary to General Washington, among other things intimating the desire of the general, that the cloathing lately intercepted by the committee

committee forwarded the American

Resolved, That the said thing be in order a proper of Pennsylvania for the my.

Fourth, The committee of safe enclosed copies of Washington's These being

Ordered, That the Pennsylvania Congress the Congress of the United States is disposed of the powder

Resolved, That the following, Esq; adjutant general New-York with the the president for him same by the

Ordered, That the ward to General dred blank cers in his up agreed gress.

Fifth, Schuyler, consideration

Resolved, That Esq; be hospital and geon for the partment.

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committee of Philadelphia should be forwarded to the camp for the use of the American army.

Resolved, That the above cloathing be immediately forwarded, under a proper guard, by the delegates of Pennsylvania to General Washington for the use of the American army.

Fourth, A letter from the committee of safety in New-York, with an enclosed copy of a letter from General Washington.

These being taken into consideration.

Ordered, That the delegates for Pennsylvania prepare and lay before the Congress to-morrow an account of the powder belonging to the United Colonies received, and how it is disposed of, also an account of all the powder now in this city,

Resolved, That Edward Fleming, Esq; be appointed deputy adjutant general for the army in the New-York or Northern department, with the rank of a colonel, and that the president make out a commission for him accordingly, and forward the same by the first opportunity.

Ordered, That the president forward to General Schuyler four hundred blank commissions for the officers in his army, to be by him filled up agreeable to the order of Congress.

Fifth, Sundry letters from General Schuyler, which being taken into consideration.

Resolved, That Samuel Stringer, Esq; be appointed director of the hospital and chief physician and surgeon for the army in the Northern department.

That the pay of the said Samuel Stringer, as director, physician and surgeon, be four dollars per day.

That he be authorized and have power to appoint a number of surgeons mates under him not exceeding four.

That the pay of said mates be two thirds of a dollar per day.

That the number be not kept in constant pay, unless the sick and wounded be so numerous as to require the constant attendance of four, and to be diminished as circumstances will admit, for which reason the pay is fixed by the day, that they may only receive pay for actual service.

That the deputy commissary general be directed to pay Dr. Stringer for the medicines he has purchased for the use of the army, and that he purchase and forward such other medicines as General Schuyler shall, by his warrant, direct, for the use of said army.

That Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Jay, Mr. J. Adams and Mr. Lewis, be a committee to devise ways and means for supplying the continental army with medicines.

The delegates for Pennsylvania appointed, at the last session, a committee to settle and pay the expences incurred for raising and arming the rifle companies, as well as those incurred in consequence of a resolve for raising a company of Hussars and for expresses, &c. informed the Congress that on account of sundry difficulties they had not executed that service, and desired that some members from other colonies, where debts have been contracted, may be added, whereupon,

Resolved, That Mr. Chase, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Crane, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Deane, be added to the delegates for Pennsylvania, and that any five of them be a quorum to settle and pay the above accounts and make report of their proceedings to Congress.

The delegates from the colony of Georgia informed the Congress, that agreeable to an order from their constituents, they had sundry papers from that colony to lay before the Congress.

The papers being produced were read.

The commissioners for Indian affairs

papers in the Northern department having transmitted to the Congress the minutes of a treaty held with the Six Nations at Albany in August, the same were read.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the letter received from Messrs. L. Morris and J. Wilson of the 6th instant.

Resolved, That Col. Lewis Morris, who is now at Pittsburgh be, and he is hereby empowered to act as a commissioner for Indian affairs in the middle department at the treaty proposed to be held there on the 23d instant, Dr. Franklin the standing commissioner, not being able to attend.

Ordered, That the president write to Messrs. Morris and Wilson, and inform them of the foregoing resolution.

Adjourned till 10 o'clock to morrow.

*Friday September 15, 1775.*

Resolved, That Doctor Thomas Walker be appointed a commissioner for Indian affairs in the middle department, in the room of P. Henry, Esq; who has declined that service.

The delegates from Georgia informed the Congress, that when the convention of that colony agreed to enter into the continental association, they resolved, among other things, "that if any vessel arrived from Great-Britain, between the sixth day of July and the sixth day of August, the goods imported should, at the option of the importer, either be reshipped or put into store, and there remain until the Congress determined what should be done with them." That during that time two vessels had arrived with goods, which were stored; they therefore desired the determination of the Congress on that matter.

After some debate thereon,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the convention of Georgia to cause the cargoes, which have arrived there from Great-Britain or Ireland between the sixth day of July and the

sixth day of August, at the election of the proprietors, either to be sent back or sold at public auction; that out of the monies arising from such sales the proprietors or shippers be paid the prime cost of said cargoes, and all charges attending the same, and that the overplus be retained by the said convention, and by them applied toward putting their province into a posture of defence.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday September 16, 1775.*

The delegates from New-Hampshire attended in Congress and produced their credentials, which were read and approved, and are as follows, *Colony of New Hampshire, in Congress at Exeter, August 23, 1775.*

Voted, That Col. Josiah Bartlett be appointed in the room of John Sullivan, Esq; now engaged in the army, in conjunction with Capt. John Langdon to represent this colony in the Congress of the United Colonies at Philadelphia, and that either of them, in the absence of the other, have full power to represent this colony at said Congress.

Signed, MATTHEW THORNTON, President.

A true Copy from the Journal.

Attest. E. Thompson, Secretary.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letters from General Washington, No. 4. 5. and 6. and one since received, but not numbered, and after debate.

Resolved, That the further consideration of them be deferred till Monday next.

Resolved, That this Congress will on Wednesday next take into consideration the state of the trade of America.

Adjourned till Monday next 9 o'clock, *Monday, September 18, 1775.*

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the rifle-men, &c. laid before the Congress the account of Mr. West and Mr. Donaldson, amounting to 5303<sup>62</sup>/<sub>96</sub> dollars, money

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by them advanced for the purchase of rifles and shirts, &c. for the privates of several companies, which is charged to the respective companies, and for blankets and ammunition supplied them, which is charged to the continent, which account the committee have examined and find just.

Ordered, That the committee pay the above account.

An express arriving with letters from General Schuyler, dated Isle au Noix, Sept. 8th, and the same being read.

Resolved, That the consideration of the letters from General Washington be deferred till to-morrow.

Resolved, That the Congress will to-morrow take into consideration the letters from General Schuyler.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

*Tuesday, September 19, 1775.*

The Congress took into consideration the letters from General Schuyler,

Ordered, That the secretary publish an authentic account of the intelligence received.

Resolved, That Mr. Deane, Mr. Chase, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Jay, be a committee to prepare the draught of a letter to General Schuyler.

A motion being made in behalf of one Col. John Fenton, who had been taken into custody by the convention of New-Hampshire, for being concerned in measures dangerous to the rights of Americans, and who by order of the general now remains, on his parole, a prisoner at Hartford; that he may be permitted to go to Great-Britain or Ireland.

Resolved, That General Washington be instructed to discharge the said Colonel John Fenton from custody, on his giving his parole of honor to proceed to New-York, and from thence to Great-Britain or Ireland, and not to take up arms against the good people of this continent.

Resolved, That the Congress will to-morrow take into consideration the letters from General Washington.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

*Wednesday, September 20, 1775.*

Resolved, That the president write to the provincial convention of New-York, or the committee of safety; directing them immediately to equip and send forward the whole of the troops ordered to be raised to join General Schuyler with all possible expedition.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to General Schuyler, brought in the same, which being debated, corrected and approved.

Ordered, That it be signed by the president and forwarded immediately.

Ordered, That a copy of General Schuyler's letter, and of the enclosed papers, and of the letters sent to General Schuyler be immediately forwarded to General Washington.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letters from General Washington.

Resolved, That Mr. Gridley have a commission as colonel of the artillery.

That the appointment of a brigadier general be deferred till to-morrow.

The subject of trade to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday September 21, 1775.*

The committee of accounts laid before the Congress sundry accounts, viz.

An account of Timothy Matlock, employed as a clerk, amounting to 162 dollars.

An account of James Milligan for sundry sail cloth, Russia sheeting, oznabrigs, &c. bought at the desire of Mr. Willson by order of the Congress, for the use of the continental army, amounting to 4842<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> dollars.

An account from the committee of Berks advanced for sundry rifle companies, amounting to 5521<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> dollars including a considerable sum advanced to Colonel Thompson.

Ordered, That the two first be paid

paid immediately, and that the last be referred back to the committee for examination, and if found just that they pay it.

Resolved That the appointment of a Brigadier General be deferred.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the General's letters, and thereupon came to the following resolutions.

Resolved, That General Washington be ordered to issue commissions to Majors Box, Scammel and Brewer as Brigade Majors.

That the pay of the judge advocate in the army in the Massachusetts Bay, for himself and his clerk be fifty dollars per month from the time of his appointment.

That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the memorial of the commissary general, and report their opinion on the best means of supplying the army with provisions.

The ballots being brought in and examined, the following persons were elected, viz. Mr. Willing, Mr. Deane, Mr. P. Livingston, Mr. Cushing, and Mr. Ward.

Resolved, That General Schuyler be empowered to nominate and appoint a proper person to the office of brigade major in the army under his command, and to issue a commission accordingly.

Resolved, That the Congress will to-morrow take into consideration the state of the trade of North-America.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, September 22, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported, That the account of Andrew M<sup>r</sup> Nair, door keeper, for his service, amounting to 57<sup>8</sup>/<sub>10</sub> dollars is reasonable and ought to be paid.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Sundry letters were laid before the Congress and read, viz.

Two, from the committee of safety in New-York with sundry papers enclosed.

One, from Mr. Morris and Mr. Wilson, dated Pittsburgh, September 14, with sundry papers enclosed.

The committee of safety for Pennsylvania having informed the Congress that they have taken into custody Major Rogers, an officer in the King's service.

Resolved, That in case the committee find nothing against Major Rogers, except that of his being a half-pay officer, he be discharged on giving his parole not to take up arms against the inhabitants of America in the present controversy between Great-Britain and America.

The order of the day being read.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the state of the trade of America and report their opinion:

That the committee consist of seven.

The ballots being taken and examined, the following persons were chosen, viz. Dr. Franklin, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Jay, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Willing.

The committee of claims reported, that the account of William Shad, amounting to forty eight dollars for his services as messenger last session is reasonable and ought to be paid.

Ordered, That the above account be paid.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

*Saturday, September 23, 1775.*

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to purchase a quantity of woollen goods for the use of the army, to the amount of five thousand pounds sterling.

That the said goods when bought be placed in the hands of the quarter master general of the continental armies, and that the same be by them sold out to the private soldiers of said armies at prime cost and charges, including a commission of five per cent to the said quarter masters general for their trouble.

That the committee consist of five.

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The ballot being taken and examined, the following members were chosen, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Alsop, Mr. Willing, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Langdon.

The committee of claims produced two receipts for money received of James Whitehead.

One signed by Richard Brown, a captain of one of the rifle companies from Maryland for fifty pounds Pennsylvania currency, 133 $\frac{1}{4}$  dollars.

The other signed by Michael Cresop a captain of the other rifle company from Maryland, for one hundred pounds Pennsylvania currency, 266 $\frac{3}{4}$  dollars, received for the use of their respective companies marching to Cambridge in the continental service.

Ordered, that the above accounts be paid to James Whitehead and charged to the respective companies.

Ordered that the committee appointed to devise ways and means of supplying the army with medicines, do buy a parcel of drugs in the hands of Mr. Rapalje, which he offers at the prime cost.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock on Monday next.

*Monday, September 25, 1775.*

The Congress took into consideration the letters from General Washington, No. 5 and 6, and two others not numbered.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare an answer.

The ballots being taken and examined, the following members were chosen, viz. Mr. Lynch, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Adams.

The committee of claims having represented to the Congress that, in consequence of the order of Congress, dated the first of August last, they have drawn out of the treasury the sum of ten thousand dollars, and that over and above they have drawn on the treasurers for the further sum of one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six

dollars and one quarter of a dollar, to discharge sundry accounts, which the Congress ordered them to pay, they therefore move that the Congress will issue an order for the same to indemnify the treasurers.

The Congress taking this matter into consideration.

Resolved, That the committee's draughts for the above sum be deemed valid and allowed good in the treasurer's accounts.

As accounts are brought in, different from those committed to the foregoing committee to liquidate, and as it is proper that the accounts of the continent be put into a proper train of liquidation and settlement, in order for payment.

Resolved, that a committee of accounts or claims be now appointed, to consist of one member from each of the United Colonies, to whom all accounts against the continent are to be referred, who are to examine and report upon the same, in order for payment, seven of them to be a quorum.

That the committee consist of the following members, viz. Mr. Langdon, Mr. Cushing, Mr. Ward, Mr. Deane, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Smith, Mr. Willing, Mr. Rodney, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Gadsden, and Doctor Zubly.

That the former committee deliver to the committee now appointed all the books, accounts, and papers in their hands.

The delegates from Pennsylvania produced an account of the powder imported, and how it has been disposed of.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from Messrs. Morris and Wilson, of 14th September, with the enclosed papers, and after some debate, the same was referred till to-morrow.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, September 26, 1775.*

The order of the day was called for,



for, but as the delegates for Virginia and Pennsylvania were not present, the consideration of the letters and papers from Messrs. Morris and Wilson was deferred till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to General Washington's letters reported the same, which was read, debated and agreed to.

Ordered, That the same being transcribed be signed by the president and forwarded immediately.

The committee appointed to examine the Journal of the Congress during the last sessions in order for the press, reported a copy, which was in part read.

Ordered, That the remainder be read to-morrow.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, September 27, 1775.*

The committee of claims applied to the Congress for advice how to charge sundry accounts, and the same being taken into consideration.

Resolved, That the expence of kettles, canteens and spoons, supplied to the soldiers be charged to the continent.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred and sixty thousand dollars be paid to Connecticut, for supplies issued by that Colony for the service of the United Colonies, to be accounted for by them.

The committee of claims reported that in their opinion the following accounts were reasonable and ought to be paid.

A ballance due to Robert Erwin, waggon-master, amounting to  $887\frac{1}{3}$  of a dollar.

An account of George Frank for riding express, amounting to 38 dollars.

An account of the committee of Northampton county, for money advanced for sundry rifle companies, amounting to  $3182\frac{3}{8}$  of a dollar.

Ordered that the above accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee appointed to examine the journals of the last sessions, and the same being read.

Ordered, That the journal as now corrected be published by the secretary, and that he superintend and correct the press.

A memorial of Samuel and Robert Purviance was presented and read, setting forth, that they had chartered a vessel to carry a load of wheat, that the said vessel in going from Philadelphia to Chester-Town, Maryland, was lost in the late storm, by which they were prevented from exporting, before the 10th of September, the cargo, which they had actually purchased, and therefore praying for liberty to export the cargo to a foreign port.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Certain resolutions of the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, respecting an application made to them by a captain, for leave to take a cargo of flour to Gloucester, in Massachusetts-Bay, were laid before the Congress and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock on Friday.

*Friday, September 29, 1775.*

A letter from General Washington, dated the 21st of September, with sundry enclosed papers, being received by express, was laid before Congress and read.

The committee of claims reported as their opinion that the following accounts ought to be paid.

A ballance due to John Powell, for riding express, amounting to  $45\frac{1}{3}$  dollars.

An account of Matthias Slough, for money advanced to the rifle companies amounting to  $710\frac{6}{8}$  dollars.

An account of James Alexander for riding express, a ballance due to him, amounting to  $172\frac{6}{8}$  dollars.

Ordered that the above accounts be paid.

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Resolved, That when any accounts are ordered to be paid, the orders be drawn on the treasurers and signed by the president.

Resolved, that a committee of three members be appointed to repair immediately to the camp at Cambridge, to confer with General Washington, and with the Governor of Connecticut, lieutenant governor of Rhode-Island, the council of Massachusetts, and the president of the convention of New Hampshire, and such other persons as to the said committee shall seem proper, touching the most effectual method of continuing, supporting and regulating a continental army.

Resolved, That the appointment of said committee be deferred till to-morrow.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, September 30, 1775.*

The Congress proceeded to the election of a committee, and the ballots being examined, Mr. Lynch, and Dr. Franklin, were found to be duly elected by a majority of votes, and two other members having an equal number,

Resolved, That the Congress proceed to the election of another member for the committee, and that this rule be observed in all similar cases.

Accordingly the ballots being taken, the committee of examination reported, that Mr. Harrison is duly elected.

Resolved, That a committee of five members be appointed to draw up instructions for the above committee.

The ballots being taken the following members were chosen, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Lee, Mr. Johnson, Mr. R. Livingston, and Mr. S. Adams.

Resolved, That the president inform General Washington by express, of the resolution of Congress, appointing a committee to wait on him, in order to consult with him, touching the most effectual method of

continuing, supporting and regulating a continental army.

That a letter to the same import be written to the Governor of Connecticut, and that the president therein request him, in case he cannot himself attend, that he will appoint a person to represent that colony, and confer with the committee of the Congress on the subjects intrusted to them.

That like letters be written to the council of Massachusetts-Bay, and to the lieutenant governor of Rhode-Island, and to the president of the convention of New-Hampshire.

The committee of claims reported, that in their opinion the following accounts ought to be paid.

A certificate presented by William Hall, signed by captain Daniel Morgan, for necessaries furnished by George Kyser to his company; another certificate presented by said W. Hall, and signed by said D. Morgan, for necessaries furnished his company by Mesheck Sexton, both the above sums amounting in the whole to seventy-one dollars and two thirds of a dollar, to be charged to said Morgan's company.

An account of necessaries furnished by John Jordan of Lancaster, for captain Ross and captain Smith's companies of rifle men, amounting to 432 $\frac{1}{2}$  dollars to be charged to the continent.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

The committee appointed to consider the trade of America brought in their report, which was read and referred to Monday next.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday next.

*Monday, October 2, 1775.*

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on trade, and after some debate,

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into

consideration the state of the trade of the Thirteen United Colonies.

That the above report be referred to that committee.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions reported a draught, which being read and debated by paragraphs was agreed to.

Ordered, That a fair copy be made out and delivered to the committee appointed to wait on the general.

Resolved, That where the word month is used, the Congress means calendar month, by which the pay of the men in the service of the continent is to be regulated.

Resolved, That the pay of the second lieutenants in the marching regiments be the same as that of the first lieutenants.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, October 3, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported that in their opinion the following accounts ought to be paid.

The account of Frederic Bicking for 16 reams of paper for the continental currency, amounting to 388 $\frac{1}{2}$  dollars.

The account of Samuel Boughman, for the entertainment of Captain Ross's company, amounting to 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  dollars.

Two accounts from the committee of Trenton for waggonage and sundry expences, amounting together to the sum of 103 $\frac{1}{2}$  dollars.

Two accounts delivered in by Casper Weitzal, for expences for diet and provisions for captain Lowden's company of rifle-men, amounting together to the sum of 44 $\frac{1}{2}$  dollars.

Two accounts delivered in by Miles and Wister, for necessaries furnished by John Harris, jun. and Elias Younkman, to captain Lowden's company of rifle-men, amounting to 96 dollars, to be charged to the said company.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

The committee of claims further

reported an account of Frederick Blankenberg and Leonard Stein, retained as hussars, on which they desired to know the determination of Congress.

Ordered, That the above named Frederick Blankenburg and Leonard Stein be allowed to retain the cloaths made for them, and that over and above they be paid 16 dollars each, for the time they were retained in service.

Resolved, That the commissary general contract for such quantities of beef and pork as may be thought proper by the general, and have the same salted up in convenient houses near the camp, according to his scheme recommended by the general to the consideration of the Congress.

Resolved, That the sum of three hundred thousand dollars be immediately sent to the paymaster general for the use of the army in the Massachusetts-Bay.

Resolved, That the committee who are appointed to repair to the camp be requested to take the charge of the above sum, or as much of it as they conveniently can.

Resolved, That the expence of the committee be paid out of the continental treasury.

One of the delegates for Rhode-Island laid before the Congress a part of the instructions given them by their two houses of legislature, August 26, 1775.

Resolved, That the Congress will on Friday next take the above into consideration.

Resolved, that the committee appointed to repair to the camp do confer with Mr. Rittenhouse, and enquire of him whether he apprehends he can be of service to the continent as an engineer, and if he can, to engage him and desire he would with all convenient speed repair to the camp.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee

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Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, October 4, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported, that in their opinion, the following account ought to be paid.

An account of the committee of Bedford county, for necessaries furnished to the company of rifle-men raised therein, amounting to 755 $\frac{1}{2}$  dollars, of which sum 128 $\frac{3}{4}$  dollars ought to be charged to the continent, and the remaining sum of 626 $\frac{3}{4}$  dollars ought to be charged to Captain Robert Clugage's company, as so much of their pay advanced to them.

Ordered, That the above be paid.

Two members who undertook to receive and count the money, for which an order passed yesterday to be sent to the pay-master general, reported that they found only 189,467 dollars ready in the treasury, which they received and have packed up ready to be sent forward, for which they gave their own receipts, and now return the order drawn by the president.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the Thirteen United Colonies, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to any resolution desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take into further consideration the state of the trade of the Thirteen United Colonies.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, October 5, 1775.*

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into

farther consideration the state of the trade of the Thirteen United Colonies, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that not having come to any resolution, they desired leave to sit again.

Resolved that this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of the trade of the Thirteen United Colonies.

Sundry letters from London, were laid before the Congress and read.

The committee of claims reported, that in their opinion the following accounts ought to be paid:

An account of Mrs. Stille, of Trenton, for the expences of Captain Ross and others, to be charged to the said Ross, until he makes it appear to be just and reasonable that the same be charged to the continent, amounting to 327 $\frac{9}{10}$  dollars.

An account of Charles Axford for provisions for Captain Ross's company, amounting to 8 $\frac{3}{10}$  dollars.

An account rendered by Charity Britton, for provisions for the same company, amounting to 9 $\frac{7}{10}$  dollars.

An account rendered by Joseph Clunn, for provisions for the same company, amounting to 7 $\frac{1}{10}$  dollars.

An account of William and Thomas Bradford, for printing, amounting to 178 $\frac{7}{10}$  dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Resolved, That Timothy Matlack, of this city, be employed as a store-keeper, and that the implements provided for the hussars, and the tents and linen, &c. purchased for the army, be put under his care.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, October 6, 1775.*

Two letters from General Schuyler, dated Ticonderoga, 25th and 28th September, with sundry papers inclosed, were read.

Resolved, That orders issue to the continental treasurers, to collect for continental

continental bills a quantity of silver and gold, not exceeding 53,200 dollars in value, for the use of the army in Canada.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter from New-York, respecting the fortifications ordered to be effected on Hudson's river.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to report to-morrow morning an answer to the convention of New-York.

The following members were chosen by ballot, viz. Mr. Morton, Mr. Dean, and Mr. R. Livingston.

The committee appointed to prepare a plan, &c. brought in a farther report, which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table, for the perusal of the members.

The order of the day was renewed, and the consideration of the instructions given to the delegates of Rhode-Island referred to this day, was put off to Monday, 16th instant.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, October 7, 1775.*

Ordered, That the president draw on the treasurers, in favour of Francis Lewis, John Alsop, Thomas Willing, Silas Deane, and John Langdon, Esqrs. for the sum of five thousand pounds-sterling, to pay for the goods they were ordered to purchase for the use of the continental army.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the letter from the convention of New-York, brought in their report, which being read and debated was agreed to as follows.

That the provincial convention of New-York be directed immediately to render Hudson's river defensible, that in doing this they be particularly attentive to form such works as may be finished before the winter sets in—as it is very doubtful whether any stone work can be properly made at this advanced season, it is submitted to the judgement of the said convention whether it could not be more

cheaply and expeditiously done by works of wood or fascines. If they should think otherwise, that they be directed to go on with the work in the way which they think best, since it is the opinion of the Congress that the work should by no means be neglected.

But if the work be already begun on the plan sent us, that they render such parts as can be first finished defensible, so that the labour be not thrown away, if an attack should be made before the whole can be finished.

That the convention be directed to enquire whether there are not some other places where small batteries might be erected so as to annoy the enemy on their passage, particularly a few heavy cannon at or near Moore's house, and at a point on the west shore, a little above Verplank's point.

That it be recommended to said convention to establish at proper distances, posts to be ready to give intelligence to the country, in case of any invasions, or by signals to give alarms in case of danger, and that they confer with the assembly of Connecticut, and convention of New-Jersey, on the speediest manner of conveying intelligence in such cases, and receiving assistance when necessary.

That the convention be farther directed to take the most effectual method to obstruct the navigation of the said river, if upon examination they find it practicable.

Resolved, That orders be sent to General Worster, in case he has no orders to the contrary from General Schuyler, that he immediately return to the batteries erecting in the high lands, and there leave as many of his troops, as the conductors of the work shall think necessary for compleating them, and that he repair with the remainder to New-York.

A member of Pennsylvania laid before the Congress a resolve passed in the House of Assembly, in these words:

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*In Assembly, Sept. 30, 1775. A. M.*

The house taking into consideration the several letters sent down yesterday by the governor, acquainting him with the intrusion of a number of people into this province, under a pretended claim of the Colony of Connecticut, to the great annoyance of the good people of this province.

Resolved, That the delegates for this province be specially directed to lay the same before the Congress, with the mischievous tendency the pursuing such measures will have, and procure the aid of that assembly to quiet the mines of the good people of this province, and prevent further intrusion or extension of settlements under the said claim, until the matter shall be determined by the King and Council, to whom both sides have submitted the dispute.

Extract from the journals,

CHA. MOORE, clerk of assembly,  
Resolved, That the same be referred to the delegates for Connecticut and Pennsylvania, who are desired to report thereon on Monday next.

Resolved, That the letter from Messrs. Morris and Wilson of the 14th of Sept. be taken into consideration on Monday next.

The order of the day being renewed.  
Adjourned to 9 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, October 9, 1775.*

A letter from Joseph Trumbull, Commissary General, dated Sept. 23, 1775, was read, desiring that £500 lawful money, 1666  $\frac{2}{3}$  dollars be paid to Mr. Tracy, for money by him advanced to Colonel Arnold, for the use of the continent, and that the same be charged to his account.

Ordered, That the president draw on the treasurers for the above sum in favour of Mr. Tracy, and that the same be charged as above.

A letter from General Schuyler, dated the 19th of Sept. with one enclosed from Gen. Montgomery, and sundry other papers were read.

Resolved, That a committee of five members be appointed to take the same into consideration and report an answer.

The following members chosen, viz. Mr. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Chase, Mr. R. Livingston, and Mr. Deane.

The delegates of Pennsylvania and Connecticut informing the Congress, that they were not yet ready to make a report on the matters referred to them,

Ordered, That they prepare and bring in their report on Wednesday next.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the convention of New-Jersey, that they immediately raise at the expence of the continent two battalions consisting of eight companies each, and each company of 68 privates, officered with one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, four serjeants, and four corporals.

That the privates be enlisted for one year, at the rate of five dollars per calendar month, liable to be discharged at any time, on allowing them one month's pay extraordinary.

That each of the privates be allowed instead of a bounty, one felt hat, a pair of yarn stockings, and a pair of shoes; the men to find their own arms.

That the pay of the officers, for the present be the same, as that of the officers in the present continental army, and in case the pay of the officers in the army is augmented, the pay of the officers in these battalions shall, in like manner, be augmented from the time of their engaging in the service.

The order of the day being renewed.  
Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, October 10, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported the following accounts reasonable, and which ought to be paid, viz.

The account of Du Simitier, for translating the address of the United Colonies

Colonies to the inhabitants of Quebec, amounting to eight dollars.

William Govett's account of the expences of a party of 27 men escorting powder to Trenton, amounting to 67  $\frac{1}{8}$  dollars.

David Rittenhouse's for 36 cuts for continental money, amounting to 48 dollars.

John Thornton's account of provisions and ferriage for part of Capt. Rofs's company, amounting to 10 dollars.

Christopher Ludwig's account for sundry expences in forwarding powder to Ticonderoga, amounting to 41  $\frac{3}{8}$  dollars.

Ordered, That the said account be paid.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to General Schuyler's letters, reported a draught, which was read and ordered to lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

A motion being made relative to the appointment of officers in the Continental Army, and the same being largely debated the determination thereon was deferred till to-morrow.

The order of the day was renewed.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, October 11, 1775.*

A list of the matters referred to this day being read.

The delegates of Connecticut and Pennsylvania were called on to report on the matter referred to them, but not being yet ready,

Ordered, That they meet this afternoon and prepare a report to be laid before Congress to-morrow.

The committee of claims reported that the following accounts ought to be paid, viz.

The account of the committee of Elizabeth-town for cartage, expresses, and for provisions to Captain Rofs's company, amounting to 98.3 dollars, of which 3.6 dollars to be charged to Captain Rofs.

James Leslie's account of necessities furnished to Captain Rofs's company, amounting to 14.8 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the motion made yesterday respecting the appointment of officers, and, after debate, the same was postponed.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to report what subsistence ought to be allowed to the officers and soldiers in the continental service, when on their march, and in quarters before they join the army.

The members chosen, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Langdon.

The Congress took into consideration the letter to General Schuyler, which being debated by paragraphs was agreed to.

Ordered, That the same be transcribed and forwarded.

The committee appointed on the subsistence, &c. brought in their report, which being read, was ordered to lie on the table to be taken up to-morrow.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, October 12, 1775.*

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee respecting subsistence for the soldiers, &c.

Resolved, That each captain and other commissioned officer, while in the recruiting service of this continent, or on their march to join the army, shall be allowed two dollars and two thirds of a dollar per week for their subsistence, and that the men, who enlist, shall each of them, whilst in quarters, be allowed one dollar per week, and when on their march to join the army, one dollar and one third of a dollar for the same purpose.

Resolved, That the president transmit to the convention of New-Jersey, blank commissions, to be filled up by the said convention, to the captains and subaltern officers in the two battalions to be raised in that colony; and that the appointment of the field officers

officers be until the Convention on

John Peates for New Congress, which, proved, a North Carolina Hillborough

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officers be for the present suspended, until the Congress come to a determination on that matter.

John Penn, Esq; one of the delegates for North-Carolina appeared in Congress, and produced his credentials, which being read, were approved, and are as follows:

*North Carolina, } In Congress, Sep-  
Hillsborough. } tember 8, 1775.*

"Mr. Caswell informed the Congress, that, as they had done him the honor to appoint him treasurer of the southern district of this province, and one of the signers of the public bills of credit, his attending those duties would render it entirely out of his power to attend the Continental Congress as one of the delegates of this province, he therefore requested this Congress would be pleased to appoint some other gentleman in his stead. Wherefore it is resolved, that John Penn, Esq; be, and he is hereby appointed a delegate in behalf of this province, in conjunction with William Hooper and Joseph Hewes, Esqrs. and that he be invested with the same power, and intitled to the like allowance, that the said Richard Caswell would have been vested with, and entitled to under a former resolution of this Congress. By order,

ANDREW KNOX, *secretary,*

Signed, SA. JOHNSON, *president.*"

The committee of claims reported their opinion that the following accounts ought to be paid.

Two accounts of Peter Cooper, one for several articles furnished Captain Cressop's company in Lancaster, amounting to  $2\frac{1}{3}$  dollars, to be charged to said company. The other for 34 pair of boots made by him for the hussar company amounting to  $113\frac{1}{8}$  dollars.

Francis Wade's account of expences for himself and a party of 18 men escorting Governor Skene and Mr. Lundy to New-York, amounting to  $45\frac{1}{2}$  dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assembly or committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to raise one battalion on the same terms as those ordered to be raised in New-Jersey, and to be officered in like manner.

Resolved, That the men to be enlisted be furnished at the continental expence with a hunting shirt, not exceeding in value  $1\frac{1}{8}$  dollars, and a blanket, if to be procured, but not to be made part of the terms of enlistment.

Agreeable to the order of the day the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the Thirteen United Colonies, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their further consideration the state of the trade of the Thirteen United Colonies.

The other matters referred to this day being postponed, the Congress adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, October 13, 1775.*

Agreeable to the order of the day the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the trade of the Thirteen United Colonies, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having yet come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Whereupon the order was renewed.

A letter from General Washington dated 5th of October, with sundry papers enclosed was read.

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The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee, appointed to prepare a plan, &c. after some debate.

Resolved, That a swift sailing vessel, to carry ten carriage guns, and a proportionable number of swivels, with eighty men, be fitted with all possible dispatch, for a cruize of three months, and that the commander be instructed to cruize eastward, for intercepting such transports as may be laden with warlike stores and other supplies for our enemies, and for such other purposes as the Congress shall direct.

That a committee of three be appointed to prepare an estimate of the expence, and lay the same before the Congress, and to contract with proper persons to fit out the vessel.

Resolved, That another vessel be fitted out for the same purposes, and that the said committee report their opinion of a proper vessel, and also an estimate of the expence.

The following members were chosen to compose the committee, Mr. Deane, Mr. Langdon, and Mr. Gadsden.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be referred to Monday next.

The Congress taking into consideration the memorials of sundry merchants of New-York and Philadelphia, respecting a quantity of tea on hand, which were referred by the Congress their last session, to be taken up at this next.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the said memorials, and enquire into the state of facts, and make report thereon to the Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Lee.

The several matters referred to this day were postponed till to-morrow, to which time the Congress adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock.

*Saturday, October 14, 1775.*

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from General Washington, and the papers enclosed.

Resolved, That a director general and chief physician of the hospital in Massachusetts's-Bay, be appointed in the room of Doctor Church, who is taken into custody for holding a correspondence with the enemy.

Resolved, That the Congress will on Monday next proceed to the election of a director general and chief physician of the hospital, in the room of Doctor Church.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the general's letter be postponed to Monday next.

The delegates for Connecticut informed the Congress, that they had met some of the delegates for Pennsylvania, in order to take into consideration the matters referred to them, but not being able to come to any agreement with them, and as the dispute between the people of the two Colonies on the waters of Susquehanna, had proceeded to bloodshed, and in their apprehension may be attended with very dangerous consequences unless speedily prevented, they moved that a committee be appointed out of the other Colonies to take this matter into consideration, and report thereon to the Congress.

Resolved, That this be referred to Monday next.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, October 16, 1775.*

Two letters from the convention of New-Jersey, dated 13th and 14th inst. being read.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take the same into consideration and report an answer.

The members chosen, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Dickinson, and Mr. Livingston.

A letter from General Schuyler dated 5th inst. with sundry papers enclosed.

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closed being received and taken into consideration.

Resolved, That the sum of 200,000 dollars be sent to the deputy paymaster general for the northern army.

That the delegates of Pennsylvania do immediately count and send forward the above sum under a guard.

Resolved, That the ton of powder forwarded last week to New-York, be immediately sent to General Schuyler.

Resolved, That a committee of five members be appointed to consider farther ways and means of promoting the manufactures of salt-petre.

The following members chosen, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Wisner, Mr. Chase, Mr. J. Rutledge, and Mr. Morton.

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to all persons, who are possessed of the salt-petre lately removed from Turtle-Bay, on the island of New-York, forthwith to send the same to the president of the convention of New-York, to be manufactured into gunpowder for the use of the continental army.

Ordered, That Mr. Langdon, Mr. Oyer, and Mr. Adams, enquire what quantity of powder has been sent to the northern army, and report by whom sent.

The order of the day being renewed, and the several matters referred to this day, postponed.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, October 17, 1775.*

The Congress taking into consideration the motion made last Saturday by the delegates of Connecticut.

Resolved, That a committee of five members be appointed to take into consideration the disputes between the people of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and report what in their opinion proper to be done by Congress.

The members chosen are, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Chase, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Kensey, and Mr. Hopkins.

The committee appointed to prepare an estimate, &c. brought in their

report, which after debate was re-committed.

The committee of claims reported.

That there is due to Ephraim Martin for provisions furnished to several rifle companies, 59  $\frac{3}{4}$  dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

A letter from Governor Cooke, dated 9th inst. was read.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a director general and chief physician of the hospital, in the room of Doctor Church, and the ballots being examined,

Doctor John Morgan, of Philadelphia, was elected.

Ordered, That the president write to the convention of New-York, and inform them, that it is the desire of the Congress, that the sulphur in that city be immediately removed to a place of safety.

The several matters referred to this day being postponed, and the order of the day renewed.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, October 18, 1775.*

The committee on the memorials from sundry merchants in New-York and Philadelphia, brought in their report, which being read, after some debate,

Resolved, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The delegates from New Hampshire laid before the Congress a part of the instructions delivered to them by their Colony, in these words.

"We would have you immediately use your utmost endeavours to obtain the advice and direction of the Congress, with respect to a method for our administering justice, and regulating our civil police. We press you not to delay this matter, as it's being done speedily will probably prevent the greatest confusion among us."

Resolved, That the consideration of this matter be referred to Monday next.

Resolved, That a just and well authenticated account of the hostilities



committed by the ministerial troops and navy in America since last March be collected, with proper evidence of the truth of the facts related, the number and value of the buildings destroyed by them, also the number and value of the vessels inward and outward bound, which have been seized by them since that period, as near as the number and value can be ascertained, also the stock taken by them from different parts of the continent.

That a committee of three be appointed for this purpose.

The members chosen are, Mr. Deane, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Wythe. The order of the day being renewed. Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, October 19, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported, that in their opinion the following accounts ought to be paid.

The account of the committee of Lancaster for sundries furnished the rifle companies, amounting to 2213<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> dollars.

The account of Richard Bache, Stephen Paschall, and Michael Hillegas, for superintending the printing of the continental bills of credit, amounting to 272 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the method proposed by the commissary general for supplying the army with provisions, brought in their report, which was read.

It being represented to Congress, that Capt. Isaac Sears, of New-York, has at the request of Mr. Trumbull, the Commissary General, forwarded to the camp at Cambridge, seven thousand barrels of flour, for which Mr. Trumbull has not been able to pay him for want of money in the military chest.

Resolved, That 30,000 dollars be paid to Capt. Isaac Sears on account of the above flour, he giving bond to the treasurers, to account for the same

with Mr. Trumbull, and that the same be charged to the account of Mr. Trumbull, Commissary General.

A petition from Mr. Sears and Mr. Randal was laid before the Congress, and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to Thursday the 2d November next, then to be taken into consideration,

Resolved, That the Provincial Convention of New-York be requested to send to this Congress, a copy of any order or proceeding of theirs, or of the mayor and corporation, in consequence of Governor Tryon's letter to the mayor, published in the New-York papers, under the 16th instant, also an attested copy of said letter. The order of the day being renewed. Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, October 20, 1775.*

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the General reported a draught, which was read and agreed to.

The remainder of the day and the day following, were spent in a committee of the whole, on the trade of the United Colonies: On which, not being ready to report, the order of the day was renewed, and the Congress adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, October 23, 1775.*

The Congress being informed, that yesterday the Honourable Peyton Randolph, Esq; suddenly departed this life.

Resolved, That the Congress will attend his funeral as mourners, with a crape round their left arm, according to the association.

That the Congress thus continue in mourning for the space of one month.

That a committee of three be appointed to superintend the funeral.

The members chosen, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Hopkins, and Mr. Chase.

That the committee wait on the reverend Mr. Duche, and request him to prepare a proper discourse to be delivered at the funeral.

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The delegates for Delaware government having been re-appointed by their assembly on the 21st instant, produced the credentials of their re-appointment, which were read and approved.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow, and from thence by adjournments to 10 o'clock on Wednesday.

*Wednesday, October 25, 1775.*

Sundry letters from General Washington, Governor Trumbull, and the convention of New-York, being received were read.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to the letters from the convention of New-Jersey, dated 13 and 14 inst. brought in a draught, and the same being read and debated, an answer was agreed to, and ordered to be forwarded.

The committee of claims reported, there is due to John Biddle, Commissary of the rifle battalion 4139  $\frac{7}{10}$  dollars. To James Stewart, for provisions to rifle men, 15  $\frac{7}{10}$  ditto. To Jacob Hoyler, for do. to Captain Ross's company, 18  $\frac{3}{10}$  ditto.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The Committee of Safety for Pennsylvania informed the Congress, that they have taken into custody a Capt. Campbell, and a Lieutenant Symes, together with a number of soldiers, who came from Boston in the Rebecca and Frances transport, which was cast away on Brigantine Beach, and that from General Gage's instructions to said Campbell and Symes, (herewith transmitted to Congress) it appeared they were sent to raise recruits for General Gage's army, and that from sundry examinations taken and submitted to Congress, it appeared said Campbell, has heretofore been employed in the like service, and has endeavoured to inveigle recruits by the offer of grants of forfeited lands.

The instructions being read.

Ordered, That they be published.

The examinations also being read.

Ordered, That a copy of them be

forwarded to the convention of New-York, with a recommendation to them to seize a Mr. Grant, who it is said is employed in raising recruits for General Gage's army in that Colony.

Resolved, That Mr. Hewes be added to the committee of claims.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, October 26, 1775.*

Ordered, That the resolution of the 15th July last, for encouraging the importation of arms and ammunition, and the resolution of the 18th instant, for collecting an account of the hostilities committed by the ministerial troops and navy, be immediately published.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the letter from the convention of New-York, dated 20th inst. and report an answer.

The members chosen, Mr. Deane, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Duane.

Information being given to Congress, that there has been lately discovered in the Colony of Virginia, a mineral, containing a large quantity of salt-petre.

Ordered, That the delegates of Virginia send an express to enquire into the truth of the fact, and to bring a sample of the mineral.

Resolved, That a committee of five members be appointed to take into consideration the instructions given to the delegates of New-Hampshire, and report their opinion thereon.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Ward, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Sherman.

Agreeable to the order of day the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the state of the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, and have come to a resolution.

resolution, which they desired him to report, and further to move for leave to sit again.

The report of the committee being read, was agreed to as follows :

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Provincial Assemblies, conventions, or councils of safety, of the United Colonies, to export to the foreign West Indies, on account and risque of their respective Colonies, as much provisions or other produce, except horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry, as they may deem necessary for the importation of arms, ammunition, sulphur, and salt-petre,

Ordered, That a copy of the above be transmitted by the delegates to their respective assemblies, conventions, or committees of safety.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their further consideration, the state of the trade of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, October 27, 1775.*

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to the convention of New-York, brought in a report, which was read.

The remainder of the day being spent in a committee of the whole, and the order of the day renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, October 28, 1775.*

The committee of safety of Pennsylvania, having transmitted to Congress some further examinations of the soldiers who came in the Rebecca and Frances transport desired the direction of Congress, with regard to the officers and soldiers, whereupon,

Resolved, That a Capt. Campbell and Lieutenant Symes, and the men, who came with them in the Rebecca and Frances transport, be confined in such goals in this Colony, as the committee of said Colony think proper, and that said Captain Campbell and Lieutenant Symes be allowed for their subsistence  $1\frac{1}{2}$  dollar each a week, and

the men one dollar a week each, to be paid out of the continental treasury.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the New-York letters.

Resolved, That a company of matrosses, to consist of a captain, a captain lieutenant, a first and second lieutenant, a lieutenant fire worker, four serjeants, four corporals, eight bombardiers, sixty-eight matrosses, one drummer, and one fifer, be immediately raised in New-York, for the defence of Hudson's river, and to occupy the fortifications now erecting in the highlands, and that it be recommended to the consideration of said Colony immediately, to raise said company, and to appoint the proper officers.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due on account of necessities furnished to the hussar company, &c. the following sums, viz.

To James and Drinker,	tenths
per account,	192 8 dol
Thomas Clifford and Sons,	64 4
Usher and Henry,	29 2
George Fromberger,	127 3
William Ogden,	73 3
William Kerlin,	64
Samuel Garrigues,	11
Andrew Fegener,	266 6
Lewis Kuhn,	425 3
Lewis Prah to be paid by his order to Andrew Bonner,	226 6
Sundries for smaller sums to be paid by T. Matlack.	550 6
That there is due to Rachael Stille, for expences of a guard at Trenton over the powder,	10 5
To William Holmes, for goods furnished the rifle company raised in Cumberland,	85 6

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Ordered, that the above accounts  
be paid.

Resolved, That five of the committee of claims of which the chairman is to be one, be empowered to act.

Resolved That the inspectors of the press deliver the proof sheets and checks of the continental bills, to the continental treasurers, and that they deliver one of each to the delegates of every colony, to be deposited with the provincial treasurer appointed in such Colony, and retain the rest in their hands.

Mr. Randolph, one of the salt-petre committee being dead, and Mr. Morton another, desiring to be excused on account of his attendance in the House of Assembly.

Resolved, That three new members be chosen for that committee.

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. Humphreys, and Mr. Wythe.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, October 30, 1775.*

The committee appointed to prepare an estimate, and to fit out the vessels brought in their report, which being taken into consideration.

Resolved, That the second vessel ordered to be fitted out on the 13th instant; be of such a size as to carry 14 guns, and a proportionate number of swivels and men.

Resolved, That two more vessels be fitted out with all expedition, the one to carry not exceeding 20 guns, and the other not exceeding 36 guns, with a proportionate number of swivels and men, to be employed in such manner, for the protection and defence of the United Colonies, as the Congress shall direct.

Resolved, That four members be chosen and added to the former committee of three, and that these seven

be a committee to carry into execution with all possible expedition, as well the resolutions of Congress passed the 13th inst. as those passed this day for fitting out armed vessels.

The members chosen, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Lee, and Mr. J. Adams.

The convention of New-Jersey having recommended sundry gentlemen for field officers to command the two battalions raising in that colony.

Resolved, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

A letter from W. Livingston, Esq; dated the 18th inst. was read and referred till to-morrow.

The order of the day being renewed. Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, October 31, 1775.*

Sundry letters from General Schuyler of the 6th, 13th, 14th, and 19th. inst. with sundry papers enclosed were read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the trade of these colonies, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee having taken into consideration the matter to them referred, have come to certain resolutions, which they desired him to report, but that not having come to a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The report of the committee being read.

Resolved, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

Resolved, That the appointment of field officers for the battalions raising in New-Jersey, be postponed to Friday next.

A member from Pennsylvania laid before the Congress a resolve of the honourable assembly of that colony, in these words.

*In Assembly, October 28, 1775.*

The house taking into their further con-



consideration the resolve of Congress, for raising a battalion in this province for general service, find it necessary that monies should be advanced by the several captains for that purpose.

Resolved, Therefore that the Congress be requested to order a sufficient sum of money to be put into the hands of the committee of safety of this province, to be immediately applied in raising said battalion.

Extract from the minutes,

CHAS. MOORE, Clk. of Assembly.

Resolved, That the consideration thereof be referred to Friday next.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, November 1, 1775.*

A letter from General Washington, by express, with an account of the burning of Falmouth was read.

Ordered, That a copy be forwarded by the delegates to their respective assemblies, conventions, and committees of safety.

A letter from the committee of conference with the minutes of their proceedings was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The Congress taking into consideration the report from the committee of the whole.

Resolved, That no produce of the United Colonies be exported except from Colony to Colony, under the direction of the committees of inspection and observation, and (except from one part to another of the same Colony) before the first day of March next, without the permission or order of the Congress, provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to vacate the resolutions of Congress for the importation of arms, ammunition, &c.

Resolved, That New-York, the three lower counties on Delaware, North-Carolina, and Georgia, ought not to avail themselves of the benefit allowed to them by the late restraining

act, and therefore that no persons should apply at the custom houses in those Colonies for clearances or other documents, which other Colonies are deprived of by said restraining act, for securing the navigation of vessels with cargoes from their ports, and that the president transmit to the assemblies or conventions of those Colonies, copies of this resolution, with the thanks of this Congress to those Colonies respectively, for not having hitherto taken any advantage of the exemptions in the said act of parliament.

Resolved, That no rice be exported under the exception contained in the 4th article of the association, from any of the United Colonies to Great-Britain, Ireland, or the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Alderney, or Man, or any other European island, or settlement within the British dominions.

Resolved, That no live stock (necessary sea stores, at the discretion of the committees, and horses excepted) be exported from these colonies on water borne, except in rivers, bays, and sounds.

The further consideration of the report being postponed, and the order of the day renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, November 2, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported that there is due.

To Daniel Smith, for expences of guards attending Governor Skeene, Major French and others, and the expences of Mr. Lundy, and Major French, 133  $\frac{1}{10}$  dollars.

To John Davies, for provisions and carriage to three rifle companies, 1320  $\frac{1}{10}$  dollars.

To Simons and Henry, for sundries to rifle companies, 2313  $\frac{6}{10}$  dollars, of this 26  $\frac{7}{10}$  dollars to be charged to the continent, the remainder to several rifle companies, the money be paid to Hugh and George Robert per order of said Simons and Henry.

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To John Montgomery, 56 dollars of which  $2\frac{1}{8}$  to be charged the continent.

To John Brewster, Zachariah Dubois, and Jon. Brooks,  $61\frac{1}{8}$  dollars, to be paid per order, to Henry Wifner, Esq;

To William Sickle, according to the prayer of his petition, 40 dollars.

To Captain Dowdle, for drums &c. for his company,  $61\frac{1}{8}$  dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to carry into execution the resolves of Congress, for fitting out four armed vessels, be authorized to draw on the continental treasurers from time to time, for as much cash as shall be necessary for the above purpose, not exceeding the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, and that the said committee have power to agree with such officers and seamen, as are proper to man and command said vessels, and that the encouragement to such officers and seamen be one half of all ships of war made prize of by them, and one third of all transport vessels exclusive of wages.

The inhabitants of a district in Nova-Scotia, having chosen a committee of safety, and having by their petition applied to the Congress to be admitted into the association of the United Colonies, for the preservation of their rights and liberties.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take this matter into consideration, and report what steps in their opinion it may be proper to take in consequence of this application, for the preservation of the liberties of America.

The members chosen, Mr. Deane, Mr. Jay, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Langdon, and Mr. J. Adams.

Resolved, That the delegates have power to transmit to their respective committees of safety, a copy of the resolution passed yesterday.

A memorial from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, respecting Lieutenant Symes was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from Mr. Bedford, deputy muster-master general, with sundry muster rolls being received were read.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the instruction to the delegates of New-Hampshire, brought in their report, which was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from John Rains of Bermudas was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Congress taking into consideration the letters from General Schuyler, General Montgomery, and W. Livingston, Esq;

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to repair to the northward, to confer with General Schuyler, and to pursue such instructions as may be given them in charge by the Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Langdon, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Dyer.

That a committee of five be appointed to prepare instructions for the foregoing committee.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Jay, Mr. Lee, Mr. Deane, and Mr. J. Adams.

Resolved, That 3000 felt hats, 3000 worsted caps, 3000 pair of buckskin breeches, 3000 pair of shoes, 3000 pair of yarn stockings, and 3000 waistcoats suitable for the season, be immediately purchased and sent to the army, under the command of General Schuyler, to be sold to the soldiers at prime cost, including charges of carriage and five per cent. to the deputy quarter master general, by whom the said goods are to be sold.

Resolved, That these goods be sold to those soldiers only, who will re-enlist in the continental army, and to the new recruits.

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Resolved, That as much duffels or kersey, as will make three hundred watch coats be purchased and sent to General Schuyler, with needles and thread, to be made into watch coats, and that these be charged to the continent, and kept for the use of the out-sentries.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to purchase the foregoing articles.

The members chosen, Mr. Alsop, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Sherman.

Ordered, That the committee apply to the committee of inspection of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, for their assistance in purchasing the above articles.

The committee appointed to repair to the camp at Cambridge being returned, made a farther report of their proceedings, whereupon,

Resolved, That Saturday next be assigned for taking into consideration the report of the committee, and the state of the army at Cambridge.

Resolved, That the petition of Mr. Sears, and Mr. Randall, which was referred to this day, be postponed to Monday next.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, November 3, 1775.*

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the New-Hampshire instructions.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Provincial Convention of New-Hampshire, to call a full and free representation of the people, and that the representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such a form of government, as in their judgment will best produce the happiness of the people, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the province, during the continuance of the present dispute between Great-Britain and the Colonies.

The Congress then taking into consideration the state of South-Caro-

lina, and sundry papers relative thereto being read and considered.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take the same into consideration, and report what in their opinion is necessary to be done.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Bullock, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Chase, and Mr. S. Adams.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to William Holliday, for goods and provisions furnished by several persons to the rifle companies of Virginia, the sum of £246 12 3 Virginia currency, = 822 dollars; of which there ought to be charged to Captain Morgan, the sum of £169 1 7½, and to Captain Stevenson, the sum of £13 16 11, and the remainder to the continent.

To Andrew Bunner, for goods furnished to Captain Cressop's company by David Mitchell, the sum of £67 4 6, and for provisions to Captain Stevenson's company, the sum of £3 2 6, the last mentioned sum to be charged to the continent, both amounting to 187 <sup>6</sup>/<sub>16</sub> dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

The Congress taking into consideration the recommendation from the Convention of New-Jersey.

Resolved, That the same be referred to Monday next.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, November 4, 1775.*

A letter from General Schuyler, dated with sundry inclosed papers, containing an account of the taking of Fort Chambly, being received and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the committee appointed to prepare instructions.

Ordered, That General Montgomery's letter, and the articles of capitulation be published by the secretary.

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The committee appointed on the differences between the people of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, brought in their report, which being read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to Monday next.

On motion made, The Congress came to the following resolution.

The Congress considering that the most perfect union between all the colonies, is essentially necessary for the preservation of the just rights of North-America, and being apprehensive that there is great danger of hostilities being commenced, at or near Wyoming, between the inhabitants of the colony of Pennsylvania, and those of Connecticut.

Resolved, That the Assemblies of the said Colonies be requested to take the most speedy and effectual steps to prevent such hostilities.

Ordered, That Mr. M'Kean and Mr. Deane, wait upon the Honorable House of Assembly, of Pennsylvania, now sitting, with a copy of the above resolution.

Ordered, That a copy of the said resolution be transmitted by express to the magistrates, and people of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, on the waters of the Susquehannah.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee of conference.

Resolved, That the new army intended to lie before Boston, consist of 20372 men, officers included.

Resolved, That the pay of the officers and privates (except that of the captains, lieutenants, and ensigns in the marching regiments) be the same as in the present army.

Resolved, That the pay of a captain in the marching regiment be, 63 dollars per calendar month.

That the pay of a lieutenant in ditto, be 18 dollars per ditto.

The pay of an ensign in ditto, be 3 dollars per ditto.

Resolved, That each regiment consist of 728 men, officers included,

that it be divided into eight companies, each company to consist of one captain, two lieutenants, one ensign, four serjeants, four corporals, two drums or fifes, and 76 privates.

Resolved, That a ration consist of the following kind and quantity of provisions :

1lb. beef, or  $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. pork, or 1lb. salt fish per day.

1lb. bread or flour per day.

3 pints of pease or beans per week, or vegetables equivalent, at one dollar per bushel for pease or beans.

1 pint milk per man per day, or at the rate of  $\frac{1}{7\frac{1}{2}}$  of a dollar.

1 half pint of rice, or 1 pint of Indian meal per man per week.

1 quart of spruce beer or cyder per man per day, or nine gallons of molasses per company of 100 men per week.

3lb. candles to 100 men per week for guards.

24lb. soft or 8lb. hard soap for 100 men per week.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several assemblies or conventions of the colonies respectively, to set and keep their gunsmiths at work, to manufacture good firelocks, with bayonets; each firelock to be made with a good bridle lock,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch bore, and of good substance at the breech, the barrel to be 3 feet 8 inches in length, the bayonet to be 18 inches in the blade, with a steel ramrod, the upper loop thereof to be trumpet mouthed: that the price to be given be fixed by the assembly or convention, or committee of safety of each Colony, and that until a sufficient quantity of good arms can be manufactured, they import as many as are wanted, by all the means in their power.

Resolved, That the good arms of such soldiers as leave the service, be retained for the use of the new army, on a valuation made of them.

Resolved, That cloathing be provided for the new army by the continent,



tinent, and paid for, by stoppages  
 out of the soldiers wages, at  $1\frac{2}{3}$  dollars  
 per month, that as much as possible  
 of the cloth for this purpose be dyed  
 brown, and the distinctions of the re-  
 giments made in the facings.

That a man who brings a good new blanket into the camp, be allowed two dollars therefor, and take it away at the end of the campaign.

Resolved, That in order to supply the army with provisions, the commissary general be directed to cause cattle and hogs to be driven at proper seasons to the camp, there to be slaughtered and cured, and as to the articles of bread and flour, that he proceed in the way he has done for some time past.

Resolved, That such officers, as have served in the present army to approbation and are willing to stay, be preferred, and if there are more of these than are necessary for the new army, that the general distinguish such as he deems best qualified.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several legislatures of New-England to empower the general to impress carriages, vessels, horses, and other things necessary at a reasonable rate, for the transportation or march of the army, or any part of it, or on any other emergency, and that this power may be depured in writing under the hand of the general to the quarter-master-general, or to any inferior officer, who are to be accountable for any abuse thereof,

Resolved, That the general be directed to propose to the officers now serving in the present army, that they signify in writing as soon as possible, which of them will continue to serve and defend their country, and which of them will retire, and that such officers, as propose to continue in the service and are approved by the general, proceed to enlist their men into the continental service, upon the same pay and allowance of provisions as is now given, their service to continue

to the last day of December, 1776,  
subject to be discharged at any time  
by the Continental Congress.

Resolved, That if upon trial the number of men before resolved on cannot be raised out of the present army, then the officers appointed for the new army recruit their several regiments and companies to their full complement, and in case the necessity of the service requires it, that the general be empowered to call forth the minute-men or militia of the Massachusetts-Bay, or the neighbouring Colonies, according to the nature and exigence of the service.

Resolved, That, it be recommended to the several legislatures, assemblies, or conventions of the Colonies, to enact a law or pass an ordinance, inflicting the following punishments upon such as harbour deserters, knowing them to be such, viz. a fine upon all such offenders, not less than 39 nor more than 50 dollars, and in case of inability to pay the fine to be punished with whipping, not exceeding 39 lashes for each offence: also that they empower the commander in chief, or the officer commanding a detachment or any out-post, to administer an oath, and swear any person or persons to the truth of any information or intelligence, or any other matter relative to the public service.

Resolved, That any person, who shall apprehend a deserter, and bring him to the regiment to which he belongs, upon certificate thereof by the colonel or commanding officer of such regiment, shall be intitled to receive five dollars and all reasonable expences from the paymaster-general or deputy paymaster, which is to be deducted from the pay of such soldier.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the report be referred to Monday next.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the state of South-Carolina, brought in their report, which being read,

**Resolved,**

Resolved, That for the defence of South-Carolina there be kept up in that Colony, at the continental expence, three battalions of foot, each battalion to consist of the same number of men and officers, and be upon the same pay, and under the same regulations as the continental army.

Resolved, That for the defence of the colony of Georgia, there be one battalion kept up there at the continental expence, to be composed as the battalions of South-Carolina.

Resolved, That the said troops be enlisted to the 31st day of December, 1776, subject however to be discharged sooner if the Continental Congress shall think proper.

Resolved, That the president sign blank commissions, and that the conventions, or in their recess, the councils of safety for South-Carolina and Georgia respectively, fill them up with the names of such officers as they may think proper, and return a list thereof to the Congress.

Resolved, That in case of vacancy occasioned by the death or removal of a colonel or inferior officer, the said conventions, or in their recess, the said councils of safety appoint another person to fill up such vacancy until a commission shall issue from the Congress, and that they return to the Congress, a list of the names of the person or persons so appointed.

Resolved, That the officers on the continental establishment shall, when acting in conjunction with officers of equal rank on the provincial establishment, take command of the latter, and also of the militia; and the officers of the troops on the provincial establishment shall when acting in conjunction with officers of the militia take command and precedence of the latter of equal rank, notwithstanding prior dates of commissions.

Resolved, That if the convention, in their recess, the council of safety South-Carolina, shall think it expedient for the security of that Colony

to seize or destroy, and shall seize or destroy any ship or vessel of war, this Congress will approve of such proceeding.

Resolved, That the town of Charles Town ought to be defended against any attempts that may be made to take possession thereof by the enemies of America, and that the convention or council of safety of the Colony of South-Carolina ought to pursue such measures, as to them shall seem most efficacious for that purpose, and that they proceed immediately to erect such fortifications and batteries in or near Charles-Town, as will best conduce to promote its security, the expence to be paid by the said Colony.

Resolved, That if the convention of South-Carolina shall find it necessary to establish a form of government in that Colony, it be recommended to that convention to call a full and free representation of the people, and that the said representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such form of government as in their judgment will best produce the happiness of the people, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the Colony, during the continuance of the present dispute between Great-Britain and the Colonies.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, November 6, 1775.*

The assembly of Pennsylvania having appointed new delegates, the said delegates produced their credentials, which were read and approved, and are as follows:

*" In Assembly, November 3, 1775.*

*" Resolved, That the honourable John Morton, speaker, John Dickinson, Robert Morris, Benjamin Franklin, Charles Humphreys, Edward Biddle, Thomas Willing, Andrew Allen, and James Wilson, be and they are hereby appointed to serve as representatives of this province in the Continental Congress.*

*Extract from the minutes,  
CHA. MOORE, Clk. of Assembly."*

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the sundry letters lately received from the convention of New-York, and the state of that Colony, and report what in their opinion is necessary to be done.

The members chosen, Mr. R. Livingston, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Ward.

The Congress resuming the consideration of the report of the committee returned from the camp, and having agreed to sundry articles therein contained, and come to sundry resolutions.

Ordered, That the secretary digest in order the resolutions of the Congress, as far as they have gone in the report, and lay the same before Congress to-morrow.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be referred till to-morrow.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to examine what money remains in the continental treasury unapplied, and to form an estimate of the public debts already incurred, and which will become due on the first day of June next.

That the committee consist of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Cushing.

The committee of claims reported that there is due

To John Forbes for goods and necessaries delivered to several rifle companies, the sum of £35 11 10=94½ dollars, of which sum Captain Clugage ought to be charged with £6 2 10, and Captain Chambers with £4 16, the remainder to the continent, that this is to be paid per order to Blair M'Clenaghan.

To Jane Allen, the sum of £47 0 7 and to Vendal Lands the sum of £2 0 0, both sums being 130½ dollars, and that the same be paid per order to Henry Wisner, Esq. and charged to the continent.

To Judah Harbow £7 12 4, and

to Captain Jackson £13 4 6, for necessaries furnished several rifle companies, and that both sums be paid per order to Henry Wisner, Esq. and charged to the continent, being 52.1 dollars.

To Andrew Graff, for waggonage, the sum of £27 2 6, and to Christopher Crawford for blankets, the sum of £6 15, both which sums to be paid per order to George Graff, and charged to the continent, being 90.3 dollars.

To Richard Backhouse, for waggonage, the sum of £51, being 136 dollars.

To Miles and Wister, by sundry certificates, £26 6 4=70.1 dollars, of which £13 10 to be charged to Captain Rice's company, and £3 to Captain Cressap's company, the remainder to the continent.

To Frederick Leinbach, by sundry certificates, £58 11 5,=156.2 dollars, of which £4 13 6 to be charged to Captain Price, £3 15 to Captain Stevenson, £6 15 1 to Commissary Biddle, until it appears to be otherwise accounted for, the remainder to the continent, to be paid per order to George Schlosser.

To John Murrow, for goods delivered to Captain Stevenson, £71 18 10, to be paid per order to George Davis, and charged to said Stevenson, being 191.8 dollars.

To Robert Erwin, for waggonage, £169 9 3=451.9 dollars.

To Timothy Matlack money by him paid to Joseph Brown, an express to Cambridge, £17 4 1=45.9 dollars.

To Jasper Stines and Abraham Storm, for provisions and carriage furnished by them to the rifle companies £14 9 2 New-York currency=36.1 dollars to be paid per order to John Alfop, Esq.

Ordered, That the above sums be paid.

Application being made in behalf of the Colony of North-Carolina, for the sum of 3750 dollars, in part of

the expense of equipping of the army that Colony of the C

Orders to William and John to the Colony which the

The several referred being of the day Adjourned

Tuesday A letter

No. 11, v

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the expence inturred for raising and equipping 1000 men for the support of the association, and the safety of that Colony, agreeable to the resolve of the Congress.

Ordered, That the same be paid to William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and John Penn, Esqrs. and charged to the Colony of North-Carolina, by which the same is to be accounted for.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, and the order of the day renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, November 7, 1775.

A letter from General Washington, No. 11, was read.

The secretary having digested in order the resolutions passed by Congress produced the same, which being read were approved as follows.

Resolved, That Doctor Church be close confined in some secure gaol in the Colony of Connecticut, without the use of pen, ink, and paper, and that no person be allowed to converse with him, except in the presence and hearing of a magistrate of the town or the sheriff of the county where he shall be confined, and in the English language until farther orders from this or a future Congress.

Resolved, That the following additions and alterations, or amendments be made in the rules and regulations of the continental army.

1. All persons convicted of holding treacherous correspondence with, or giving intelligence to the enemy, shall suffer death or such other punishment as a general court-martial shall think proper.

2. All commissioned officers found guilty by a general court-martial of any fraud or embezzlement, shall forfeit all his pay, be *ipso facto* cashiered, and deemed unfit for further service as an officer.

3. All non-commissioned officers and soldiers, convicted before a regimental court-martial, of stealing, embezzling, or destroying ammuni-

tion, provision, tools, or any thing belonging to the public stores, if a non-commissioned officer, to be reduced to the ranks, and punished with whipping, not less than fifteen nor more than thirty-nine lashes, at the discretion of the court-martial, if a private soldier, with the same corporal punishment.

4. In all cases where a commissioned officer is cashiered for cowardice or fraud, it be added to the punishment that the crime, name, place of abode, and punishment of the delinquent be published in the newspapers in and about the camp, and of that Colony from which the offender came or usually resides, after which it shall be deemed scandalous for any officer to associate with him.

5. Any officer or soldier, who shall begin, excite, cause or join in any mutiny or sedition, in the regiment, troop, or company, to which he belongs, or in any other regiment, troop, or company of the continental forces, either by land or sea, or in any party, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer death, or such other punishment, as a general court-martial shall direct.

7. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty under arms, he shall be cashiered and drummed out of the army with infamy; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall be sentenced to be whipt, not less than twenty nor more than thirty-nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence.

8. Whatsoever officer or soldier, placed as centinel, shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he be regularly relieved, if a commissioned officer, he shall be cashiered and drummed out of the company with infamy; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, he shall be sentenced to be whipped, not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-nine



nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence.

9. No officer or soldier shall lie out of his quarters or camp, without leave from the commanding officer of the regiment, upon penalty, if an officer, of being mulcted one month's pay for the first offence, and cashiered for the second; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, of being confined seven days on bread and water for the first offence, and the same punishment and forfeiture of a week's pay for the second.

10. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall misbehave himself before the enemy, or shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like, he shall suffer death.

11. All public stores taken in the enemy's camp, or magazines, whether of artillery, ammunition, cloathing, or provisions, shall be secured for the use of the United Colonies. And all commissioned officers found guilty by a general court-martial of embezzling the same, or any of them, shall forfeit also his pay, be *ipso facto* cashiered, and deemed unfit for further service as an officer; and all non-commissioned officers and soldiers, convicted before a regimental court-martial, of stealing or embezzling the same, if a non-commissioned officer, shall be reduced to the ranks, and punished with whipping, not less than fifteen, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, at the discretion of the court-martial, if a private soldier, with the same punishment.

12. If any officer or soldier shall leave his post, or colours in time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall, if a commissioned officer, be cashiered and drummed out of the army with infamy, and forfeit all share of plunder, if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be whipped, not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence, and forfeit

all share of plunder taken from the enemy.

13. Every officer commanding a regiment, troop, or company, shall, upon notice given to him, by the commissary of the musters, or from one of his deputies, assemble the regiment, troop, or company, under his command, in the most convenient place for their being mustered, on penalty of being cashiered and mulcted of his pay.

14. At every muster the commanding officer of each regiment, troop, or company there present, shall give to the commissary of the musters certificates, signed by himself, signifying, how long such officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who shall not appear at the said muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence, which reasons, and the time of their absence, shall be inserted in the muster rolls, opposite to the names of such absentees; and the surgeons or their mates shall, at the same time, give to the commissary of musters a certificate, signed by them, signifying the state of health or sickness of those under their care, and the said certificates shall, together with the muster rolls, be by the said commissary transmitted to the general, and to this or any future Congress of the United Colonies or committee, appointed thereby, within twenty days after such muster being taken, on failure whereof the commissary to offend, shall be discharged from the service.

15. Every officer who shall be convicted before a general court-martial, of having signed a false certificate, relating to the absence of either officer, non-commissioned officer, or private soldier, and every surgeon or mate, convicted of signing a false certificate, relating to the health or sickness of those under his care, shall be cashiered.

16. All officers and soldiers, who shall wilfully, or through negligence, disobey

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disobey any general or special orders, shall be punished at the discretion of a regimental court-martial, where the offence is against a regimental order, and at the discretion of a general court-martial, where the offence is against an order given from the commander in chief, or the commanding officer of any detachment or post, and such general court-martial can be had.

Resolved, That three new members be added to the committee for importing arms, ammunition, &c. and that any five of them be a quorum.

The members chosen Mr. Lewis, Mr. Bartlett, and Mr. Bullock.

The Congress taking into consideration the recommendation for field officers of the New-Jersey battalions.

Resolved, That the Congress will proceed by ballot to the election of the said field officers.

The ballots being taken and examined;

Lord Sterling was elected Colonel of the first of the two battalions,

William Wind, Esq; Lieutenant Colonel of ditto.

William De Hart, Esq; Major of ditto.

William Maxwell, Esq; Colonel of the second of ditto.

Israel Shreive, Esq; Lieutenant Colonel of ditto.

David Rhea, Esq; Major of ditto.

Mr. Dickinson delivered a verbal message from the Assembly of Pennsylvania, respecting the resolve sent to them by Mr. Kean, and Mr. Deane, desiring to know on what evidence the Congress ground the apprehension therein expressed, of hostilities commencing, at or near Wyoming, between the inhabitants of the Colony of Pennsylvania and those of Connecticut.

Ordered, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to take

into consideration the letters from the Convention of New-York, and the state of that Colony, brought in their report.

Ordered, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, November 8, 1775.*

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with Mr. Kirkland.

The members chosen Mr. Cushing, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Ward.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due.

To Alexander Klinger, for provisions furnished to Captain Hendrick's company £9 10 and to Refina Mourer, for ferriage 9/2, the whole to be paid per order to Henry Christ, being 26 5 dollars.

To George Kungle, for provisions furnished to Captain Rofs's company, £4 16 10, = 12.9 dollars.

To Henry Valentine, for transcribing writings for the Congress, £3 18, = 10.4 dollars.

To Samuel Bear, for provisions furnished to several companies, £27 15 7, to be paid per order to Thomas Compton = 74 dollars.

To sundries, per certificates and accounts forwarded by Lewis Ogden, for necessaries furnished Capt. Rofs's company, and for a guard over a powder waggon, £42 6 2 New-York currency, to be paid per order to George Kennedy, being 105 dollars.

To Henry Dearing, for necessaries furnished to Captain Rofs's company, £6 17, to be paid per order to John Biddle, junior, being 18.3 dollars.

To John Jones, for ferriage and provisions for Capt. Rofs's company, £2, = 5.3 dollars.

To Matthias Slough per certificates, for provisions furnished several rifle companies, £22 3 2 = 59.4 dollars,

To sundries per certificates, furnished

nished Captain Ross company, £23 15 5, New-York currency, to be paid per order to 59.4 dollars.

Ordered that the above be paid.

The congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the New-York letter, &c.

Resolved, That a commander with the rank of a colonel be appointed to take the command of the fortifications or fortresses on Hudson's river in the highlands.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the convention of New-York, to empower the said commander to call together and command 200 men of the militia of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties, and one company of artillery from the city of New-York, who shall be stationed in the highlands until relieved by the company of artillery, directed by this Congress to be raised in the city of New-York, and such other continental troops as may hereafter be directed to take possession of the same.

Resolved, That the minute men or militia, while on service, be maintained and paid at the same rate, as the rest of the continental forces.

Resolved, That a number of the militia of the counties of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster, be formed into independent companies, under the direction of the commander of the said fortresses, and in case of alarm, be directed to repair to the several stations in the highlands, which, in order to prevent confusion, should be immediately assigned them.

Resolved, That the troops, which shall at any time hereafter be directed to garrison the fortresses in the highlands, be put under the directions of the commander of the fortresses, except when headed by a general officer.

Resolved, That the deputy-commissary general be directed to provide sufficient provision for one thousand men for one month, and keep that quantity in stock.

Resolved, That the powder sent from this place to General Schuyler be remanded, if it can be any way spared, and left at the fortresses in the highlands.

Resolved, That the bills of sale, for the vessels ordered to be purchased, be made to the continental treasurers, or those who shall succeed them in that office, in trust nevertheless for the use of the continent, or their representatives, in Congress met.

Resolved, That the appointment of a commander of the fortresses on Hudson's river be deferred till tomorrow.

Mr. Dyer having, on account of indisposition, desired to be excused from going to the northward, the Congress proceeded to the election of another in his stead; and Mr. R. Livingston was chosen.

The committee appointed to prepare a draught of instructions, reported the same, which being read, and debated by paragraphs, were agreed to as follows:

*Instructions to R. R. Livingston, Robert Treat Paine, and J. Langdon, Esquires.*

" Gentlemen,

" The Congress expect that you repair with as much dispatch, as the necessary preparations for your journey will admit, to Ticonderoga, in order to consult with Gen. Schuyler what number of forces will be necessary in Canada, and of the best and most efficacious method for procuring or continuing such forces in the northern department during the ensuing winter, of engaging the inhabitants of the Colony of Canada to accede to the association of the United Colonies, and of protecting them for the future against their and our enemies.

" If, upon such a conference, it shall be judged necessary, you are authorized to direct M. Livingston, the Deputy Commissary General, to furnish the necessary provisions for an

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army of three thousand men for six months.

" You are to make use of every argument, to induce the officers and soldiers to re-inlist, or at least to stay until they can be relieved, and to assure them, that the Congress have taken care to supply them with proper cloathing.

" You are to direct the fortresses at Ticonderoga and Crown-Point to be put into such a posture of defence, as the state of our affairs may require.

" You are to advise the General to purchase of such officers and soldiers, who have arms and are sick, their arms for the use of those, who have none or bad ones and are well.

" If there should be occasion of reinforcements, you are empowered, in concert with General Schuyler, to raise any number that can be procured in Canada, New-York, or any of the New-England governments, in order to possess themselves of Montreal and Quebec.

" The Congress desire you, to exert your utmost endeavours to induce the Canadians to accede to a union with these Colonies, and that they form from their several parishes a Provincial Convention, and send delegates to this Congress. And as in the present unsettled state of that country a regular election can hardly be expected, the Congress will acquiesce in the choice of such parishes and districts, as are willing to join us.

" You may, and are hereby empowered to assure them, that we shall hold their rights as dear as our own, and on their union with us, exert our utmost endeavours to obtain for them and their posterity the blessings of a free government, and that security to their persons and property, which is derived from the British constitution.

" And you may, and are hereby empowered further to declare, that we

hold sacred the rights of conscience, and shall never molest them in the free enjoyment of their religion.

" In case General Schuyler has not yet raised the regiment recommended to him to be raised in Canada, or in case he cannot proceed to Canada, you are to use all the means in your power to perfect the raising of a regiment of Canadians, to join the continental forces, and you are, for that purpose, to take with you blank commissions, which, taking the advice of the general officers in that department, you are to fill up with the names of such persons, as have the most merit and best qualifications for the service.

" Congress direct you to acquaint General Schuyler, that they approve of his appointment of Capt. Dimon, to be a Brigade Major, and have ordered him a commission accordingly.

" The Congress moreover are desirous that you should take an accurate view of the state of our fortifications upon Hudson's river, and make a report of it as soon as it can conveniently be done.

" You are to direct that all such cannon and military stores as shall not be wanted in Canada, or in the fortifications on the lakes to be sent to Albany, there to remain until the Congress give farther directions concerning them, and for this purpose you are herewith furnished with a list of the ordnance and military stores, which were at those places when taken.

" You are to inform the general that the pay of some of the officers is raised, and to take with you from the minutes, the additional establishment.

" You are to direct all such officers and soldiers as shall re-inlist to be paid all arrears that may be due to them according to the rolls to be sent by Governor Trumbull, who in the mean time will be requested by Congress to send the rolls to the general ascer-



taining how long the men have been in service.

The disposition of the prisoners is approved of by the Congress, but the officers are not permitted to reside in or near any sea-port.

" You are authorized to assure Major Brown and Major Livingston, that Congress have a just sense of their important services, and will take the first proper opportunity to reward them.

You are also to acquaint the general, that General Montgomery's request as to the pay of the company of artillery by him appointed is complied with.

" A committee will be appointed to procure as much hard money as will be necessary to be transmitted to the deputy pay-master general in the northern army, to be used in Canada.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to make an estimate, &c. be authorized to contract for the making proper paper for a future emission of paper bills of credit.

Resolved, That the president draw an order on the treasurers for the sum of 3000 dollars, in favour of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, agreeable to the request of the honourable the assembly, towards the expence of the battalion ordered to be raised in said Colony.

Resolved, That all letters to and from the delegates of the United Colonies, during the sessions of Congress, pass and be carried free of postage, the members having engaged upon honour not to frank or enclose any letters but their own.

Ordered, That this be published.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for the sum of twenty thousand dollars in favour of Francis Lewis and Roger Sherman, Esqrs. to enable them to pay for the cloathing they were ordered to purchase.

The matters to this day referred being postponed, and the order of the day renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, November 9, 1775.*

A letter from the agents respecting the delivery of the petition and the reception it met with, was read.

Ordered, That the secretary publish the substance of said letter.

Resolved, That the appointment of a commander of the said fortresses be postponed to Wednesday next, and that Captain John Hanson take and keep the command of the said fortresses and the troops there, until the Congress shall appoint a commander.

On application made by the delegates of Georgia.

Resolved, That the president draw an order on the treasurers in favour of the delegates of that Colony, for the sum of five thousand dollars, towards the expence of the battalion ordered to be raised there, the said Colony to account for the same.

The committee to whom was referred the petition from some inhabitants of Nova-Scotia brought in their report, and the same being taken into consideration and debated, was postponed for further debate till to-morrow.

The order of the day renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, November 10, 1775.*

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for 1000 dollars in favour of Mr. Livingston, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Langdon, the committee appointed to repair to the northward.

Resolved, That the goods bought for the northern army be sent by land to Dob's ferry, and that the president write to the convention of New-York, and desire them to have a vessel ready to take in the said goods and transport them immediately to Albany.

Resolved, That the medicines purchased in this city for the army at Cambridge be sent thither by land.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the state of the Colony of Virginia, to consider whether

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whether any, and what provisions may be necessary for its defence, and to report the same to Congress.

That the committee consist of five.

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Johnson.

Resolved, that all letters to and from the commander in chief of the continental army, or the chief commander in the army in the northern department, pass and be carried free of postage.

Resolved, That the commander of the New-Jersey battalions be directed to march six companies of said battalions as soon as they are compleated, to garrison the fort on Hudson's river, in the highlands, in the Colony of New-York.

Resolved, That there be paid to John Wendall, the express from Albany, who has been detained twelve days by order of Congress, the sum of 16 dollars for the time he has been detained.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the delegates of New-Jersey, for 5000 dollars towards the expence of the battalion ordered to be raised in that Colony.

Ordered, That the delegates of Pennsylvania call on the gentlemen appointed to sign the continental bills, and request them with all possible expedition to compleat that business.

The committee appointed to consider farther ways and means of promoting the manufacture of salt-petre, brought in their report, which was read in these words.

It appears to your committee, that skilful persons sent to Virginia, and employed there in a public salt-petre work under the inspection of gentlemen, who will superintend it, may with sufficient assistance produce a considerable quantity of that article, and that a farther supply of it may be

procured from the other Colonies, if the assemblies, conventions, and councils of safety will appoint proper persons in their respective Colonies, whose business it shall be to employ and set to work such and so many of their countrymen, as they shall judge fit to collect earth, from which nitrous salt may be extracted, and to manufacture it into salt-petre.

The Congress taking into consideration the said report.

Resolved, That Richard Bland, Peter Poythress, John Bannister, John Buffin, Archibald Cary, Benjamin Watkins, John Tabb, Richard Adams, Richard Randolph, and Theodoric Bland the younger Esqrs. or any five or more of them be desired and empowered to agree with the proprietors of the public ware-houses, and of other places impregnated with nitre, in the counties of Prince-George, Dinwiddie, Chesterfield, and Henrico; Carter Braxton, John Syme, Burwell Bassett, Bartholemew Dandridge, William Aylett, George Brook, George Lyne, and George Webb, Esqrs. or any five or more of them, with such proprietors in the county of Hanover, New Kent, King William, and King and Queen; Edmund Pendleton, James Taylor, George Stubblefield, Mann Page the younger, Joseph Jones, William Fitzhugh, of Somerset, and Fielding Lewis, Esqrs. or any four or more of them, with such proprietors in the counties of Carolina, Spotsylvania, and King George; and Charles Carter, of Stafford, Thomas Ludwell Lee, Henry Lee, Thomas Blackburn, Charles Broadwater, and George Mason, Esqrs. or any three or more of them, with such proprietors in the county of Stafford, Prince William and Fairfax, in the Colony of Virginia, to purchase for the use of the United Colonies all the salt-petre, which may within twelve calendar months be produced from the floors and yards of  
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the warehouses and other places, under the management of such persons as the Congress shall appoint for that purpose, and to pay to the owner of the soil if they will manufacture it at their own expence, after the rate of two fifths of a dollar for every pound weight avoirdupois of clean pure and neat salt-petre delivered to the gentlemen above named, for the use of the United Colonies, and to hire labourers, and provide the necessary apparatus to be employed under the direction of the said managers in the soil of such persons, as shall not chuse to adventure in the business themselves, paying to the owners if they require satisfaction what they shall be willing to take, so that it do not exceed one forty-fifth part of a dollar for every pound weight avoirdupois of salt-petre of the like quality, in both which cases the Congress will make good the contracts, and will pay all such expences as shall be incurred by the gentlemen desired to superintend the operation, on whose zeal, influence and abilities to procure with all convenient expedition, a large quantity of this article so necessary for the defence of their country, and thereby render it a very important service, and by their example and activity to forward and encourage this useful work, the Congress rely with confidence.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assemblies, conventions, and committees of safety of the Thirteen United Colonies to appoint certain persons within each of the said Colonies, whose business it shall be to employ, and set to work so many persons as they may think proper, both to work up such earth as is now fit for making salt-petre, and to collect together and place in beds or walls under sheds, all such earth and composition of materials as are suitable to produce salt-petre, after being duly exposed to the air, in order to encrease the produce of it, and that the delegates of the respective Colonies be

directed to send this resolution, together with the resolution of last sessions respecting salt-petre to their respective Colonies, and cause them to be printed and made public there.

Resolved, That two battalions of marines be raised, consisting of one colonel, two lieutenant colonels, two majors, and other officers as usual in other regiments; that they consist of an equal number of privates with other battalions; that particular care be taken, that no persons be appointed to offices, or enlisted into said battalions, but such as are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve to advantage by sea when required: that they be enlisted and commissioned to serve for and during the present war between Great-Britain and the Colonies, unless dismissed by order of Congress; that they be distinguished by the names of the first and second battalions of American marines, and that they be considered as part of the number, which the continental army before Boston is ordered to consist of.

Ordered, That a copy of the above be transmitted to the general.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, November 11, 1775.*

Resolved, That it be recommended to such proprietors of tobacco warehouses, and tobacco houses in Virginia and Maryland, as cannot speedily have the earth of the floors of their houses worked for salt-petre, that they cause those floors to be soon dug up and left fine, loose and light, at least six inches deep, suffering the tobacco stalks and trashy leaves to be spread thereon, and leaving the doors open, especially in dry weather, as often as convenience will permit, whereby the soil will be much the more impregnated with nitrous particles, the manufacture of salt-petre facilitated, and the quantity thereof greatly increased.

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Two petitions, one from Charles Wharton, the other from James Loughhead, each praying to be appointed commissary to the battalions raising in this Colony, were read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to contract with such person or persons as will undertake at the cheapest rate, to supply such continental troops as are or may be in the barracks at Philadelphia during their stay there, with the rations allowed by this Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Allen.

Resolved, That the recruiting officers in Pennsylvania send the recruits they may enlist as soon as raised, to the barracks in Philadelphia.

A Letter from Volkerck P. Douw, Esq; dated 6th inst. was read.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the foregoing letter, and the minutes of the treaty held with the Indians at Albany, by the Indian commissioners of the northern department, and report thereon.

That the committee consist of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Cushing.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to proceed to Ticonderoga and Canada, be directed to confer with the generals commanding in that department, on the propriety of sending the whole or any part of the army under their command, with proper artillery and ammunition to Quebec, in order to second Colonel Arnold's expedition, or to renew the attempt, should his have failed, and to give directions accordingly.

Resolved, That the fortifications of Quebec, in case it comes into our hands, be repaired and furnished with such provisions, arms, ammunition and artillery as may be necessary for its security.

Resolved, That in case any one of the foregoing committee be disabled or prevented from proceeding, the other two have full power to proceed and transact the business intrusted to them.

The committee appointed to confer with Mr. Kirkland, brought in their report, whereupon,

Resolved, That 113 dollars be paid to the Reverend Samuel Kirkland, for his past services, out of the continental treasury.

Resolved, That for the propagation of the gospel amongst the Indians, and conciliating their affections to the United Colonies, and thereby preserving their friendship and neutrality, Mr. Kirkland be continued in his mission amongst them, and that for those important purposes he be allowed and paid out of the continental treasury, for the support of himself and family the ensuing year, sixty-five pounds sterling, or 288.9 dollars, and that sixty pounds sterling, or 266.6 dollars be advanced to him, to be by him disposed of in such manner as may best promote the happiness of the Indians, and attach them to these Colonies.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed until the committee to whom Mr. Douw's letter, and the minutes of the late treaty are referred shall have made their report.

Resolved, That 3000 tin cartouch boxes be made and sent to the camp, or if tin sufficient to make them can be procured that it be sent.

Ordered, That the delegates of Pennsylvania execute this.

Resolved, That the salt-petre committee be empowered to enter into a contract with the persons, who offer to go to Virginia on this business.

Resolved, That 50,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general, for the use of the army in the Massachusetts-Bay.

That 50,000 dollars be sent to the con-



convention of New-York, to be accounted for by said convention.

Ordered, That the delegates of Pennsylvania be a committee, to count and forward the said sums under a guard.

Resolved, That the guard do not exceed three or two of light horse, and a servant.

Two petitions, one from Murray, Sanson and others, and the other from Jasper Griffing, were read.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the foregoing petitions, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Johnson.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, November 13, 1775.*

A letter from General Washington, with sundry papers enclosed, was read.

Ordered, That the rules and regulations be republished, with the additions and alterations lately made.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a declaration in answer to sundry illegal ministerial proclamations that have lately appeared in America.

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. W. Livingston.

Resolved, That Thursday the 23d inst. be assigned for electing a brigadier general.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, and the order of the day renewed, adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow, and from thence to 10 o'clock on Wednesday.

*Wednesday, November 15, 1775.*

An express having arrived with an account of the surrender of fort St. John's, the letters from General Schuyler and General Montgomery, were read.

Resolved, That an order for 542 dollars be drawn on the treasurers,

in favour of Captain Thomas Price, on account of his rifle company, he to be accountable for the same.

The committee to whom the petitions from Jasper Griffing and Murray, Sanson and company, and others, were referred, brought in their report, which was read and agreed to as follows:

Your committee on the memorial of Jasper Griffing are of opinion, that the examination of the facts, set forth in that memorial, ought to be referred to the committee of observation for Guilford, and that the same being sufficiently proved, the schooner Betsey mentioned in said memorial ought to be permitted to proceed on her voyage with the cargo purchased and provided for her before the 10th day of September last, the master and owner of the vessel previously making oath, that they will use their best and utmost endeavours, that the said cargo shall be landed in some foreign port.

On the memorial of Murray, Sanson and company, Jacob Watson, and Frederick Rhinelander, of the city of New-York, your committee having examined as far as they could into the conduct of the parties concerned, find no ground to suspect, that the owners of the cargo intended it should be landed or disposed in any other manner than set forth in the said memorial, but your committee think there is just ground to suspect, that William Barron, the master of the ship Peggy, would not be very solicitous to prevent the cargo, which might be useful to the ministerial army, from falling into the possession of the men of war, he having been before taken in the same ship, in Rhode-Island, with a cargo from Cheseapeak-bay, for Europe, nor can your committee approve the conduct of the owner of the ship who continued the captain afterwards.

Your committee are therefore of opinion that another master ought to be appointed to the said ship, who shall

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shall be approved by the committee of Norwich, and that the time of her sailing, as well as her tract be appointed by that committee, and the master sworn to use his best endeavors to prevent the said ship falling into the possession of any man of war or cutter, and to pursue as far as he can the orders of the said committee in navigating the said ship, on which terms your committee are of opinion the said ship ought to be permitted to proceed with her cargo.

A proposal from Nathaniel Sackett, for making a quantity of salt-petre, being received and read.

Ordered, That the same be referred to the salt-petre committee.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, November 16, 1775.*

The assembly of Pennsylvania having by a resolution of their house; recommended three gentlemen for field officers to the battalion raising in said colony, the same together with applications from sundries, to be appointed adjutant and quarter-master to said battalion, were read.

Sundry papers from the general assembly of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, being laid before Congress and read.

Resolved; That these be referred to a committee of seven.

The members chosen, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Sherman; Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Ward, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Harrison.

Resolved, That the committee appointed on the 11th inst. to contract for supplying the troops in the barracks in Philadelphia, be empowered to contract for supplying the same wherever sent for twelve calendar months, provided they are so long continued in the continental service, to commence next Monday.

The committee of claims reported that there is due to Henry Rankin, for provisions to Captain Ross's company, 161.9 dollars.

To John Hider, for carrying powder to Trenton, 10.6 dollars.

This to be paid per order to Joseph Jewell.

To Francis Lee, for horse-hire for expresses, 20 dollars.

To John Little, for entertainment of sundry expresses, 16.8 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The said committee also reported an account of Major Coates and Captain Copperthwaite, which being read.

Ordered, That the same lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

Ordered, That the delegates write to their colleagues, who are absent, and inform them that the Congress expect their immediate attendance.

Resolved, That for the future no member absent himself from Congress without leave of Congress.

Resolved, That it be a rule of this Congress, that every member remain in his seat whilst any paper is reading or question putting.

The order of the day being renewed. Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, November 17, 1775.*

A letter from General Washington, enclosing a letter and journal of Colonel Arnold, and sundry papers being received, were read; whereupon,

Resolved; That a committee of seven be appointed, to take into consideration so much of the general's letter as relates to the disposal of such vessels and cargoes belonging to the enemy, as shall fall into the hands of, or be taken by the inhabitants of the United Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. W. Livingston, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Johnson.

Resolved, That the prisoners taken at Chambly and St. John's be sent to, and kept in the towns of Reading, Lancaster, and York, in the colony of Pennsylvania.

That the committee appointed the 11th instant to contract for supplying the

the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, be empowered to distribute the said prisoners in the towns aforesaid, and contract for their support or subsistence.

That the rations of the privates be the same as are allowed the privates in the continental army.

That orders issue to the officer who has the charge of conducting the prisoners, to march them by the nearest road to Reading, in the colony of Pennsylvania, and that the deputy commissary general be directed to supply them with provisions for their march, agreeable to the rations supplied the continental army.

That the said commissary be directed, if the prisoners agree to it, to send the women, children, and baggage by water to Amboy, from thence to be sent across to Bordentown, and from thence by water to Philadelphia, from which last place they will be sent to join the garrison in the towns allotted to them, this being judged the safest, cheapest, and most commodious way of conveying them.

Whereas it is become necessary to appoint a Colonel of the regiment of artillery, in the room of Colonel Gridley, on account of his advanced age.

Resolved, That this Congress will indemnify Colonel Gridley for any loss of half pay, which he may sustain in consequence of his having been in the service of the United Colonies.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of a colonel of the regiment of artillery, and

Henry Knox, Esq. was unanimously elected.

Resolved, That the commissioned officers taken in the forts of Chambly and St. John's be put upon their parole of honor, that they will not go into or near any seaport town, nor farther than six miles distant from the respective places of their residence without leave of the Continental Con-

gress, and that they will carry on no political correspondence whatever, on the subject of the dispute between Great-Britain and the Colonies, so long as they remain prisoners.

Whereas the officers taken at Fort Chambly have been permitted by General Schuyler, to make choice of, and to reside in Trenton, in New-Jersey, and the disposition of the prisoners by him made, has been approved by Congress.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be sent to the committee of Trenton, and that the said committee be desired to get the same signed by the officers there.

Resolved, That the officers taken at St. John's, be sent to Windham and Lebanon, in the colony of Connecticut, provided General Schuyler has not given his word for another disposition of them.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, and the order of the day renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, November 20, 1775.*

Sundry letters from General Washington and Governor Trumbull, with papers enclosed, among which were intercepted letters from Cork, were read.

Two petitions, one from Godfred Fehr, the other from Melchior Neff, were presented to Congress and read.

Captain John Hulbert, who was sent by General Schuyler to conduct the officers, who were taken prisoners at Fort Chambly, to Trenton, attended and made report of his proceedings.

Resolved, That the sum of 16669.3 dollars, be put into the hands of Mr. Thomas Lowry, of New-Jersey, for the purpose of furnishing the two battalions, raised in said colony, with the articles allowed them, in lieu of bounty, and for one month's pay of said battalions, he to give security for the disposal of said money, and to render account to Congress.

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Ordered, That Mr. R. Morris confer with Mr. Lowry, and receive his proposals with regard to the recompence he will expect for this service.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to contract for supplying the battalions raised in Pennsylvania, be empowered to advertise and receive proposals, and contract for supplying the above two battalions with the rations allowed them.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of an adjutant for the battalion, under the command of Colonel Lord Sterling, raised in the eastern division of New-Jersey, and Alexander Clough was elected.

Resolved, That General Schuyler be directed to make farther search in the places, where the lead was found at Crown-Point and Ticonderoga, and that he send as much lead as can be spared to the camp at Cambridge.

Resolved, That the intercepted letters be referred to the committee of seven, appointed the 17th inst. in order to select such parts of them as it may be proper to publish, and that they lay the extracts before Congress.

The orders of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, November 21, 1775.*

Mr. Morris, who was appointed to confer with Mr. Lowry, having made his report, and the same being considered.

Resolved, That Mr. Lowry be allowed one and a quarter per cent. in full of all charges, for the money passing through his hands.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the petitions from Bermuda to them referred, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the petition to them referred, and had come to certain resolutions thereon, which

he read in his place, and then delivered in.

The report of the committee being again read.

Ordered, That the same be considered to-morrow.

The orders of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, November 22, 1775.*

The Congress returned the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole, which was agreed to as follows:

The committee of the whole house to whom were referred the several petitions from the island of Bermuda, representing the distress to which they are exposed by the non-exportation agreement, and praying to be relieved in such manner, as the Congress may deem consistent with the safety of America, report that they have considered the same, and thereupon came to the following resolutions.

That the inhabitants of the island of Bermuda, appear friendly to the cause of America, and ought to be supplied with such, and so great a quantity of the produce of these Colonies, as may be necessary for their subsistence and home consumption; that in the opinion of this committee they will annually require for the purposes aforesaid 72000 bushels of Indian corn, 2000 barrels of bread or flour, 1000 barrels of beef or pork, 2100 bushels of peas or beans, and 300 tierces of rice, and that they be permitted to export the same yearly.

That the said inhabitants ought to pay for the above annual allowance in salt, but it is not the design of this resolution to exclude them from the privilege of receiving American produce to any amount in exchange for arms, ammunition, salt-petre, sulphur, and field pieces, agreeable to a resolution of Congress passed the 15th of July last.

That to enable such of these Colonies as can conveniently furnish the



island of Bermuda with the above-mentioned annual allowance, to divide whatever advantages may result therefrom, in proportion to their respective shares of the general expence—it is further the opinion of this committee.

That the colony of South-Carolina supply them with 300 tierces of rice.

That the colony of North Carolina supply them with 16000 bushels of Indian corn, and 468 bushels of peas or beans.

That the colony of Virginia supply them with 36000 bushels of Indian corn, and 1050 bushels of peas or beans.

That the colony of Maryland supply them with 20000 bushels of Indian corn, and 582 bushels of peas or beans.

That the colony of Pennsylvania supply them with 1200 barrels of flour or bread, and 600 barrels of beef or pork.

That the colony of New-York supply them with 800 barrels of flour or bread, and 400 barrels of beef or pork.

That the conventions or committees of safety of the above-mentioned Colonies, ought to superintend the said exportation, provide against frauds, and take care, that in exchanging the said commodities of salt and provisions no undue advantage be taken by either party of their mutual wants, and further, that no vessel employed in this business ought to load without their permission, and that when they shall, in pursuance of these resolutions, permit any of the said vessels to load, they do give notice thereof to the committee of inspection of the county, city, or town where such vessel shall load, and inform them that the same is done under the authority, and by order of this Congress.

That Edward Stiles be permitted under the direction of the committee of safety of the colony of Pennsylva-

nia, to send the brig Sea-nymph, Samuel Stobel, master, with 4000 bushels of Indian corn, 300 barrels of flour, 100 barrels of bread, 20 barrels of pork, 8 barrels of beef, 30 boxes of soap, and 15 barrels of apples to Bermuda, for the immediate supply of the inhabitants, and that the said cargo be considered as part of the annual allowance aforesaid for the year ensuing.

The committee on Volckert P. Douw's letter, and the minutes of the treaty at Albany, brought in their report, which being read and debated.

Resolved, That the further consideration thereof be deferred till to-morrow.

The orders of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, November 23, 1775.*

Resolved, That 120 dollars be paid to Captain John Hulbert, and charged to General Schuyler, and that said J. Hulbert, after stationing his men at the fortresses on Hudson's-river have leave to be absent 10 days.

The committee for fitting out armed vessels laid before Congress, a draught of rules for the government of the American navy, and articles to be signed by the officers and men employed in that service, which were read and ordered to lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The committee on General Washington's letter brought in their report, which being read.

Ordered, That the same lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on Mr. Douw's letter, and the Albany treaty, and after debate the first paragraph was postponed, and the remainder agreed to as follows:

The committee to whom it was referred to take into consideration the letter from Volckert P. Douw Esq. and the minutes of the treaty held

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held with the Indians at Albany, by the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department have examined the same, and come to the following resolutions thereupon :

That it is the opinion of this committee, that the Indians be assured that this Congress are pleased with their desire, that the trade should be opened as formerly at Albany and Skeneclady, that the Congress will exert their strenuous endeavours to procure the goods the Indians may want, and put the trade under such wise regulations, as that mutual justice may be effected, and that they hope those endeavours will be successful.

That General Schuyler be desired to furnish the commissioners at Albany with some powder, if he can spare it, to be distributed among the Indians, who, in the present circumstances, are much distressed by the want of that article.

That the commissioners for transacting Indian affairs in the northern department be desired to obtain from the Mohawk Indians, and the corporation of Albany, a state of the controversy between them concerning the land desired by the former in the late treaty at Albany to be restored to them, and report the matter as it shall appear to them to the Congress.

That the said commissioners be desired, at the expence of the United Colonies, to provide for and entertain the Sachems and warriors of the six nations, and other Indians friendly to these Colonies, their attendants and messengers, with the accustomed hospitality when they come to Albany or Skeneclady to treat or give intelligence of public affairs or upon a visit, and for this purpose that 750 dollars be lodged in the hands of the said commissioners subject to account.

That the said commissioners be directed to employ two blacksmiths for reasonable salaries, to reside among and work for the Indians of the six nations.

That the said commissioners be empowered to employ an interpreter, with a salary of 222.2 dollars by the year, commencing the 12th day of this month, who shall also be allowed his travelling expences, to be settled by the commissioners, and James Deane, if they judge him well qualified, is recommended to execute this office.

That 23 dollars be paid to James Deane over and above the 75 dollars advanced him by the commissioners for his past services.

Resolved, That three members be added to the committee on the Albany treaty, and that they be directed to consider of a plan for carrying on a trade with the Indians, and to devise ways and means for procuring goods proper for that trade.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilton, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Lewis.

Whereas Major Hawley, who was elected one of the commissioners of Indian affairs in the northern department, cannot on account of the situation of his private affairs attend that business, and he having by his letter desired to be excused from that service.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for electing a commissioner of Indian affairs in the northern department, in the room of the said Major Hawley,

Information being given to Congress, that certain frauds have been attempted in executing contracts for the continent.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to enquire into that matter.

The members chosen, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Johnson, Colonel Lee, and Mr. S. Adams.

Application being made by Mr. Jay, in behalf of Lieutenant Hamar, one of the prisoners at Trenton, for leave to reside with Mr. Duer, near Saratoga, the same was granted, he to be on the same parole as other officers,

officers, with this variation, not to go further than 12 miles from the place now assigned him.

Application being also made in behalf of lieutenant Symes, now a prisoner in the goal of Philadelphia; for leave to reside at Trenton, on the same parole as the other officers there, the same was granted.

Information being given to Congress by the committee of inspection for the city and liberties of Philadelphia that sundry persons in this city have refused to receive in payment or give currency to the bills issued by order of this Congress, and also to those emitted by the assembly of this province.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to take into consideration, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Doctor Franklin, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Wythe, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Jefferson.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, and the orders of the day renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, November 24, 1775.*

The committee to whom the intercepted letters were referred, brought in their report, which being read and agreed to.

Ordered, That the said committee publish the extracts now laid before Congress, and that they get 1000 copies of the same, together with an authentic account of the capture of Chambly and St. John's struck off.

Agreeable to the order of the day the Congress proceeded to the choice of a commissioner for Indian affairs in the northern department, in the room of Major Hawley, and the ballots being taken and examined.

Timothy Edwards, Esq. was unanimously elected.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the state of North-Carolina,

and report to Congress what in their opinion is necessary to be done for its safety and security.

The members chosen, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Paca.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report on General Washington's letter, and the same, after debate, was referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

A petition from Downham Newton, was presented and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Jay.

Resolved, That the treasurers pay such sums of money as the committee for promoting the manufacture of salt-petre shall draw orders upon or apply to them for, not exceeding 1000 dollars, to be accounted for by said committee.

That in case the committee for promoting the manufacture of salt-petre cannot procure persons to go to Virginia for that purpose, it be recommended to the gentlemen, who are desired and empowered to superintend and forward the work in that Colony, to employ any skilful managers they can meet with to undertake it.

A petition from Captain Dugal M'Gregor, was presented and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the committee to whom Downham Newton's petition is referred.

The committee on the state of the treasury, brought in their report, which was read and referred till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, November 25, 1775.*

The Congress proceeded to the election of field officers for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, when the ballots being taken and examined,

John Bull, Esq. was elected colonel,

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James Irvine, Esq. lieutenant-colonel.

Anthony James Morris, Esq. major.

Resolved, That Monday next be assigned for the appointment of an adjutant and quarter-master for the second battalion, raised in New-Jersey, and of an adjutant and quarter-master for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That Tuesday next be assigned for the consideration of the memorials of the tea-holders in New-York and Philadelphia.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to John Hinchman for provisions furnished to several rifle companies, the sum of 65.2 dollars.

Christopher Haine, for kettles and canteens furnished to Captain Steven-son and Captain Ross's companies, the sum of 35.8 dollars; which ought to be paid to Gibson and Aston.

Richard Bache, deputy post-master, for sundry postages from the 14th of October to 8th November, 1775, inclusive 31.1 dollars.

Thomas Dewees, for dieting the crew of the ship Rebecca and Frances, 44.4 dollars.

Levi Hollingsworth, for expences of himself and three others to Ticonderoga and back again, who took with them a quantity of money for General Schuyler, the sum of 128 dollars.

Andrew Bunker, for blankets and kettles furnished Captain Stephen-son's company, by Anthony Noble 41.4 dollars.

Doctor Franklin, for the expences of Mr. Harrison, Mr. Lyn h, and himself, on their journey to the camp at Cambridge, including carriage hire, &c. 581.9 dollars, and for other monies paid by him for the continental service, including 20 dollars advanced to Christopher Madeira, and to be charged to him, the sum of 2.7 dollars.

John Sherrey, for goods furnished by Joseph Holmes to Captain Morgan's company, to be charged to said company, the sum of 55.9 dollars.

William West, for goods furnished by John Holmes to Captain Cluggage's company, the sum of 281.3 dollars, of which sum  $35\frac{1}{2}$  dollars being for blankets, to be charged to the continent, and the remainder to Captain Cluggage's company.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on General Washington's letter, and the same being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

Whereas it appears from undoubted information, that many vessels which had cleared at the respective custom-houses in these Colonies, agreeable to the regulations established by acts of the British parliament, have in a lawless manner, without even the semblance of just authority been seized by his Majesty's ships of war, and carried into the harbour of Boston and other ports, where they have been rifled of their cargoes, by orders of his Majesty's naval and military officers there commanding, without the said vessels having been proceeded against by any form of trial, and without the charge of having offended against any law.

And whereas orders have been issued in his Majesty's name, to the commanders of his ships of war, "to proceed as in the case of actual rebellion against such of the sea-port towns and places being accessible to the King's ships, in which any troops shall be raised or military works erected," under colour of which said orders the commanders of his Majesty's said ships of war have already burned and destroyed the flourishing and populous town of Falmouth, and have fired upon and much injured several other towns within the United Colonies,



nies, and dispersed at a late season of the year, hundreds of helpless women and children, with a savage hope that those may perish under the approaching rigours of the season, who may chance to escape destruction from fire and sword, a mode of warfare long exploded among civilized nations.

And whereas the good people of these colonies, sensibly affected by the destruction of their property, and other unprovoked injuries have at last determined to prevent as much as possible a repetition thereof, and to procure some reparation for the same, by fitting out armed vessels and ships of force. In the execution of which commendable designs it is possible that those who have not been instrumental in the unwarrantable violences above-mentioned may suffer, unless some laws be made to regulate, and tribunals erected competent to determine the property of captures.—Therefore Resolved.

1st. That all such ships of war, frigates, sloops, cutters, and armed vessels as are or shall be employed in the present cruel and unjust war against the United Colonies, and shall fall into the hands of, or be taken by the inhabitants thereof, be seized and forfeited to and for the purposes herein after mentioned.

2d. Resolved, That all transport vessels in the same service, having on board any troops, arms, ammunition, cloathing, provisions, or military, or naval stores of what kind soever, and all vessels to whomsoever belonging, that shall be employed in carrying provisions or other necessities to the British army or armies, or navy, that now are or shall hereafter be within any of the United Colonies, or any goods, wares, or merchandize for the use of such fleet or army, shall be liable to seizure, and with their cargoes shall be confiscated.

3d. That no master or commander of any vessel shall be intitled to cruize

for, or make prize of any vessel or cargo before he shall have obtained a commission from the Congress, or from such person or persons as shall be for that purpose appointed in some one of the United Colonies.

4th. That it be and is hereby recommended to the several legislatures in the United Colonies as soon as possible to erect courts of justice, or give jurisdiction to the courts now in being for the purpose of determining concerning the captures to be made as aforesaid, and to provide that all trials in such case be had by a jury, under such qualifications as to the respective legislatures shall seem expedient.

5th. That all prosecutions shall be commenced in the court of that Colony in which the captures shall be made, but if no such court be at that time erected in the said Colony, or if the capture be made on open sea, then the prosecution shall be in the court of such Colony as the captor may find most convenient, provided that nothing contained in this resolution shall be construed so as to enable the captor to remove his prize from any Colony competent to determine concerning the seizure, after he shall have carried the vessel so seized within any harbour of the same.

6th. That in all cases an appeal shall be allowed to the Congress, or such person or persons as they shall appoint for the trial of appeals, provided the appeal be demanded within five days after definitive sentence, and such appeal be lodged with the secretary of Congress within forty days afterwards, and provided the party appealing shall give security to prosecute the said appeal to effect, and in case of the death of the secretary during the recess of Congress, then the said appeal to be lodged in Congress within twenty days after the meeting thereof.

7th. That when any vessel or vessels shall be fitted out at the expense

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of any private person or persons then the captures made, shall be to the use of the owner or owners of the said vessel or vessels; that where the vessels employed in the capture shall be fitted out at the expence of any of the United Colonies, then one third of the prize taken shall be to the use of the captors, and the remaining two thirds to the use of the said Colony, and where the vessels so employed shall be fitted out at the continental charge, then one third shall go to the captors, and the remaining two thirds to the use of the United Colonies, provided nevertheless, that if the capture be a vessel of war, then the captors shall be entitled to one half of the value, and the remainder shall go to the Colony or continent as the case may be, the necessary charges of condemnation of all prizes, being deducted before distribution made.

8th. That the captures heretofore made by vessels fitted out at the continental charge were justifiable, and that the distribution of the captor's share of the prizes by General Washington be confirmed, which is as follows:

A captain or commander	6	shares.
First lieutenant	5	do.
Second lieutenant	4	do.
Surgeon	4	do.
Master	3	do.
Steward	2	do.
Mate	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	do.
Gunner	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	do.
Boatswain	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	do.
Gunner's mate	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	do.
Serjeant	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	do.
Privates	1	do.

Resolved, That that part of Gen. Washington's letter of the 11th inst. respecting the capture of a vessel by the inhabitants of New-Hampshire be referred to the committee, who brought in the foregoing report.

The Congress next took into consideration the rules and orders for the fleet of the United Colonies, but not having time to finish them.

Resolved, That the further consideration of them be deferred till Monday next.

The orders of the day being renewed. Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, November 27, 1775.*

A report prevailing that young Mr. Skene, who was a prisoner in Connecticut has made his escape.

Resolved, That the delegates of Connecticut be a committee to enquire into the truth of that report.

Resolved, That orders issue to Lord Sterling to collect the troops which were raised in New-Jersey, (except the six companies which have been ordered to the fortresses on Hudson's river) and to place them in barracks in the eastern division of New-Jersey as contiguous to New-York as can be, there to remain till further orders from Congress.

Resolved, That a letter be written to the convention of New York, requesting them to use their utmost endeavours to furnish the troops raised in New-Jersey for the defence of New-York, with as many arms as they can spare.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of an adjutant and quartermaster for the battalion raised in the western division of New-Jersey, when Mr. Ephraim Anderson was elected adjutant, and Mr. Buddel Shinn, quartermaster.

Resolved, That the troops in the service of the continent be supplied with fuel and bedding at the expence of the continent.

Resolved, That an order for 3000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to be applied towards the pay of the battalion raised in said Colony, the committee to account for the expenditure of the same.

A letter from General Washington of the 19th inst. enclosing a copy of a letter from Colonel Arnold of the 27th October being received, was read.

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The Congress then resumed the considerations of the report of the committee on the disputes between the people of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and after debate.

Resolved, That the same be re-committed, and that it be an instruction to the committee to hear evidence on the possession and jurisdiction of the lands in dispute, and reduce to writing such parts of the evidence as they shall think proper.

As three of the committee are absent, viz. Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Chase, and Mr. Kinsey.

Resolved, That three members be elected in their stead.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Hooper.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, November 28, 1775.*

The Congress resumed the consideration of the rules and orders for the navy of the United Colonies, and the same being debated by paragraphs were agreed to as follows:

Rules for the regulation of the navy of the United Colonies.

The commanders of all ships and vessels belonging to the Thirteen United Colonies, are strictly required to shew in themselves a good example of honour and virtue to their officers and men, and to be very vigilant in inspecting the behaviour of all such as are under them, and to discountenance and suppress all dissolute, immoral, and disorderly practices, and also such as are contrary to the rules of discipline and obedience, and to correct those who are guilty of the same, according to the usage of the sea.

The commanders of the ships of the Thirteen United Colonies, are to take care that divine service be performed twice a day on board, and a sermon preached on Sundays, unless bad weather or other extraordinary accidents prevent.

If any shall be heard to swear, curse

or blaspheme the name of God, the commander is strictly enjoined to punish them for every offence, by causing them to wear a wooden collar, or some other shameful badge of distinction for so long time as he shall judge proper. If he be a commissioned officer, he shall forfeit one shilling for each offence, and a warrant or inferior officer sixpence. He who is guilty of drunkenness, if a seaman, shall be put in irons till he is sober, but if an officer, he shall forfeit two days pay.

No commander shall inflict any punishment upon a seaman beyond twelve lashes upon his bare back with a cat of nine tails; if the fault shall deserve a greater punishment, he is to apply to the commander in chief of the navy, in order to the trying of him by a court-martial, and in the mean time he may put him under confinement.

The commander is never by his own authority to discharge a commission or warrant officer, nor to punish or strike him, but he may suspend or confine them, and when he comes in the way of a commander in chief apply to him for holding a court-martial.

The officer who commands by accident of the captain or commander's absence (unless he be absent for a time by leave) shall not order any correction, but confinement, and upon the captain's return on board, he shall then give an account of his reasons for so doing.

The captain is to cause the articles of war to be hung up in some public place of the ship, and read to the ship's company once a month.

Whenever a captain shall insist a seaman, he shall take care to enter on his books the time and terms of his entering, in order to his being justly paid.

The captain shall, before he sails, make return to, and leave with the Congress or such person or persons as the Congress shall appoint for that purpose,

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purpose, a compleat list of all his officers and men, with the time and terms of their entering, and during his cruize, shall keep a true account of the desertion or death of any of them, and of the entering of others, and after his cruize, and before any of them are paid off, he shall make return of a compleat list of the same, including those who shall remain on board his ship.

The men shall, at their request, be furnished with slops, that are necessary, by the captain or purser, who shall keep an account of the same, and the captain in his return in the last mentioned article directed to be made, shall mention the amount delivered to such man, in order to its being stopped out of his pay.

As to the term "inferior officer" the captain is to take notice that the same does not include any commission nor any warrant officer, except the second master, surgeon's mate, cook, armourer, gunsmith, master at arms, and sail-maker.

The captain is to take care when any inferior officers or volunteer seamen are turned over into the ship under his command from any other ship, not to rate them on the ship's books in a worse quality or lower degree, or station, than they served in the ship they were removed from; and for his guidance he is to demand from the commander of the ship from which they are turned over, a list under his hand, of their names and qualities.

Any officer, seaman, or others, intitled to wages or prize money, may have the same paid to his assignee, provided the assignment be attested by the captain or commander, the master or purser of the ship, or a chief magistrate of some county or corporation.

The captain is to discourage the seamen of his ship from selling any part of their wages or shares, and never to attest the letter of attorney of any seaman until he is fully satis-

fied, that the same is not granted in consideration of money given for the purchase of his wages or shares.

When any inferior officer or seaman dies, the captain is forthwith to make out a ticket for the time of his service, and send the same by the first safe conveyance to the Congress or agents by them for that purpose appointed, in order to the wages being forthwith paid to the executors or administrators of the deceased.

A convenient place shall be set apart for sick or hurt men, to which they are to be removed with their hammocks and bedding, when the surgeon shall advise the same to be necessary, and some of the crew shall be appointed to attend and serve them, and to keep the place clean.

The cooper shall make buckets with covers and cradles if necessary for their use.

All ships furnished with fishing tackle being in such places where fish is to be had, the captain is to employ some of the company in fishing, the fish to be distributed daily to such persons as are sick or upon recovery, provided the surgeon recommend it, and the surplus by turns amongst the messes of the officers and seamen gratis, without any deduction of their allowance of provisions on that account.

It is left to the discretion of commanders of squadrons, to shorten the allowance of provisions according to the exigence of the service, taking care that the men be punctually paid for the same,

The like power is given to captains of single ships in cases of absolute necessity.

If there should be a want of pork, the captain is to order three pounds of beef to be issued to the men in lieu of two pounds of pork.

One day in every week shall be issued out a proportion of flour and suet, in lieu of beef for the seamen, but this is not to extend beyond four



months victualling at one time, nor shall the purser receive any allowance for flour or suet kept longer on board than that time, and there shall be supplied once a year, a proportion of canvass for pudding bags, after the rate of one ell for every sixteen men.

If any ships of the Thirteen United Colonies shall happen to come into port in want of provisions, the warrant of a commander in chief shall be sufficient to the agent or other instrument of the victualling, to supply the quantity wanted, and in urgent cases where delay may be hurtful, the warrant of the captain of the ship shall be of equal effect.

The captain is frequently to order the proper officers to inspect into the condition of the provisions, and if the bread proves damp, to have it aired upon the quarter deck or poop, and also examine the flesh cask, and if any of the pickle be leaked out, to have new made and put in, and the cask made tight and secure.

The captain or purser shall secure the cloaths, bedding, and other things of such persons as shall die or be killed, to be delivered to their executors or administrators.

All papers, charter parties, bills of lading, pass-ports, and other writings whatsoever, found on board any ship or ships, which shall be taken, shall be carefully preserved, and the originals sent to the court of justice for maritime affairs, appointed or to be appointed by the legislature in the respective colonies, for judging concerning such prize or prizes, or if any person or persons, shall wilfully or negligently destroy or suffer to be destroyed, any such paper and papers, he or they so offending, shall forfeit their share of such prize or prizes and suffer such other punishments, as they shall be judged by a court-martial to deserve.

If any person or persons shall embezzle or steal or take away any cables, anchors, sails, or any of the

powder, arms, ammunition, or provisions of any ship belonging to the Thirteen United Colonies, he or they shall suffer such punishment as a court-martial shall order.

When in sight of the ship or ships of the enemy, and at such other times as may appear to make it necessary to prepare for an engagement, the captain shall order all things in his ship in a proper posture for fight, and shall in his own person, and according to his duty hearten and encourage the inferior officers and men to fight courageously, and not to behave themselves feintly or cry for quarter on pain of such punishment as the offence shall appear to deserve for his neglect.

Any captain or other officer, mariner or others, who shall basely desert their duty or station in the ship, and run away while the enemy is in fight, or, in time of action, shall entice others to do so, shall suffer death or such other punishments as a court-martial shall inflict.

Any officer, seaman, or marine, who shall begin, excite, cause or join in any mutiny or sedition in the ship to which he belong, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a court-martial shall direct. Any person in or belonging to the ship, who shall utter any words of sedition or mutiny, or endeavour to make any mutinous assemblies on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment as a court-martial shall inflict.

None shall presume to quarrel with, or strike his superior officer, on pain of such punishment as a court-martial shall order to be inflicted.

If any person shall apprehend he has just cause of complaint, he shall quietly and decently make the same known to his superior officer, or to the captain as the case may require, who shall take care that justice be done him.

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fighting between ship-mates on board any ship belonging to the Thirteen United Colonies, nor shall there be used any reproachful or provoking speeches, tending to make quarrels and disturbance, on pain of imprisonment and such other punishment as a court-martial shall think proper to inflict.

If any person shall sleep upon his watch or negligently perform the duty, which shall be enjoined him to do, or forsake his station, he shall suffer such punishment as a court-martial judge proper to inflict, according to the nature of his offence.

All murder shall be punished with death.

All robbery and theft shall be punished at the discretion of a court-martial.

Any master at arms, who shall refuse to receive such prisoner or prisoners as shall be committed to his charge, or having received them shall suffer him or them to escape, or dismiss them without orders for so doing, shall suffer in his or their stead, as a court-martial shall order and direct.

The captain, officers, and others, shall use their utmost endeavours to detect, apprehend, and bring to punishment all offenders, and shall at all times readily assist the officers appointed for that purpose, in the discharge of their duty, on pain of being proceeded against and punished by a court-martial at discretion.

All other faults, disorders, and misdemeanors, which shall be committed on board any ship belonging to the Thirteen United Colonies, and which are not herein mentioned, shall be punished according to the laws and customs in such cases at sea.

A court-martial shall consist of at least three captains, and three first lieutenants, with three captains and the three first lieutenants of marines if there shall be so many of the marines then present, and the eldest captain shall preside.

All sea officers of the same denomination shall take rank of the officers of marines.

Every member of a court-martial, shall take the following oath, viz.

*You swear that you will well and truly try and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried according to the rules of the navy of the United Colonies. So help you God.*

Which oath shall be administered by the president to the other members, and the president shall himself be sworn by the officer in said court next in rank.

All witnesses before they may be admitted to give evidence shall take the following oath.

*"You swear the evidence you shall give in the cause now in hearing shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God."*

The sentence of the court-martial for any capital offence shall not be put in execution, until it be confirmed by the commander in chief of the fleet; and it shall be the duty of the president of every court-martial to transmit to the commander in chief of the fleet every sentence, which shall be given, with a summary of the evidence and proceedings thereon, by the first opportunity.

The commander in chief of the fleet, for the time being, shall have power to pardon and remit any sentence of death, that shall be given in consequence of any of the aforementioned articles.

There shall be allowed to each man serving on board the ships in the service of the Thirteen United Colonies a daily proportion of provisions, according as is expressed in the following table, viz.

Sunday 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips.

Monday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork, half pint pease, and four ounces cheese.

Tuesday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips, and pudding.

Wed-

Wednesday, 1 lb. bread, two ounces butter, four ounces cheese, and half pint of rice.

Thursday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork, and half pint pease.

Friday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips, and pudding.

Saturday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork, half pint pease, and four ounces cheese.

Half a pint of rum per man every day, and discretionary allowance on extra duty and in time of engagement.

A pint and half of vinegar for six men per week.

The pay of the officers and men shall be as follows:

Dollars per calendar month.

Captain or Commander,	32
Lieutenants,	20
Master,	20
Mates,	15
Boatswain,	15
Boatswain's first mate,	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto, second ditto,	8
Gunner,	15
Ditto Mate,	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
Surgeon,	21 $\frac{1}{2}$
Surgeon's mate,	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Carpenter,	15
Carpenter's mate,	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cooper,	15
Midshipman,	12
Armourer,	15
Sailmaker,	12
Yeoman,	9
Quarter-master,	9
Quarter-Gunner,	8
Cook,	12
Coxswain,	9
Captain's Clerk,	15
Steward,	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chaplain,	20
Able Seamen not to exceed	8
Captain of Marines,	26 $\frac{2}{3}$
Lieutenants,	18
Serjeants,	8
Corporals,	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fifer,	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Drummer,	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Privates or marines,	6 $\frac{1}{4}$

### Orders of Congress.

We whose hands and marks are hereunto set and subscribed, being officers, seamen, and marines, do, and each of us do agree to and with of the good ship, called the Thirteen United Colonies of North-America, in manner and form following, that is to say,

In the first place we do hereby agree for, by and under the considerations after mentioned, to and with the said commander, forthwith to enter and ship ourselves, and in due and seasonable time to repair on board the said ship called the and during the term of months to the utmost of our power and ability respectively to discharge our several services or stations, and in every thing to be conformable and obedient to the several requirings and lawful commands of the said and his successors in command.

Secondly, We do also oblige and subject ourselves to serve on board the said ship during the said cruize, and as she is a ship of war, we do severally oblige ourselves by these articles, to comply with, and be subject to the rules and discipline of the American fleet, as established by the Congress, and to be governed and commanded in time of action with an enemy, according to the same rules, and submit ourselves to the same punishments and penalties as are there inflicted, in case we or any of us offer to desert our quarters, or not obey the commands of the said or his

successors in command, in giving chase to any ship or ships, vessel or vessels, or otherwise, and if upon a scrutiny of our said or his said officers, we or any of us should be found guilty of any breach contrary to the tenor of this agreement, or any act of cowardice, we do hereby severally submit and agree to allow and forfeit our several and respective shares of and in any prize or prizes

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we shall then have taken, to be divided amongst the said ship's company.

Thirdly, We do also severally agree and oblige ourselves that when any prize or prizes have been taken, to follow the express directions of the said or his successors in boarding the said prize, and be under the command of any officer whom the said shall appoint and be assisting to him to carry the said prize to whatever port or ports such prize or prizes shall be assigned by the said. And we do hereby severally agree and covenant in that case, to be true and faithful in discharge of our duty and trust, and will not in any shape embezzle, defraud or plunder any thing on board such prize or prizes, and in case any or either of us shall be found guilty of any breach contrary to the true meaning of this agreement, we, and such of us being guilty thereof, do hereby severally submit and agree to allow so much of all and every of our shares, and part of our shares of and in the said prize or prizes then or thence after to be taken, and of all our respective wages, that then shall be due and coming to us in respect of our services as shall make good such plunder or embezzlement we shall have been found guilty of.

Fourthly, And it is also further agreed to be the true intent and meaning of all parties hereto, that the officer or officers or any of the ship's company sent on board any prize, shall have as good a share and interest of any prize, that shall be thereafter taken, during his or their absence, as if he or they had been on board the said vessel, at the time of taking thereof, any thing here contained to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided always, and it is hereby agreed to be the meaning of the said last mentioned clause, that if the said officer or officers, and such of the said ship's company to whom the conduct

and management of any prize has been entrusted, do not (first having accepted the commands of the said commanders concerning the said prize under his or their custody) immediately repair to the respective port or harbour where the said or his successors in command shall order, or do not proceed with the said prize or prizes so taken to the respective port or ports to be assigned by the said for the time being, that then, and in failure of any or either of the agreements aforesaid contained on our parts, we and each and every of us so offending, do hereby severally submit and agree to be cashiered, not only our several and respective interests and shares of, and in the captures of prize-money, but totally to be excluded and divested from the payment of any wages then due to us, for and in respect of our several services on board the said ship and the interest and shares of such delinquents that would otherwise have accrued to us.

Fifthly, And the said for and in behalf of himself and the Thirteen United Colonies of North-America, doth hereby covenant and agree to, and with the said officers, seamen and marines, whose names or marks are hereto set and subscribed, to pay them in consideration of such services so much money per month, as in a schedule hereunder mentioned, is set opposite to the names or marks of each respective officer, seaman, or landman; and likewise to advance to each and every of them one month's pay at entrance (due security for the same being first given;) the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge.

Sixthly, And as an encouragement to exert the valour of the seamen and marines in defending the said ship, and in subduing and distressing the said enemy, the said for and on behalf of the said Thirteen United Colonies of North-America, doth



doth further covenant, promise and agree to, and with all and every the officers, seamen and marines, parties hereto, that in case any prize or prizes shall be taken by the said ship during the intended cruize, that the same shall be proceeded against, and distributed according to the resolutions of Congress.

Seventhly, And it is by these presents mutually agreed and consented to by and between the said and every the officers, seamen and marines parties hereto, that in case the commander for the time being lose a limb in an engagement, or be otherwise disabled so as to be rendered incapable afterwards of getting a livelihood to subsist upon, he shall receive out of the net profits of such prize or prizes, or prize goods, if so much arise, before dividend or distribution be declared, the sum of four hundred dollars; or if he lose his life, his widow or children (if any), shall receive the said bounty of four hundred dollars, together with all prize-money to him belonging at the time of his decease. And if the captain of the marines, or any other commission or warrant officer lose a limb, or be otherwise disabled, so as to be rendered incapable afterwards of getting a subsistence, he or they so disabled shall receive a bounty of three hundred dollars, if so much arise from the net profits as aforesaid; and in case of death, the widow or children (if any), is, are, and shall be intitled to the same, together with their share of prize-money due at the time of their decease. And if an inferior officer, seaman or marine, lose a limb, or be otherwise disabled, so as to be rendered incapable afterwards of getting a subsistence, he or they shall receive a bounty of two hundred dollars, to be deducted as aforesaid; and in case of death, his widow or children (if any), is, are, and shall be intitled to the same, together with his share of prize-money due at the time of his decease.

He who first discovers a ship or vessel which shall afterwards become a prize, shall be intitled to a double share of such prize.

There shall be ten shares of every prize, which shall be taken and condemned, set apart to be given to such inferior officers, seamen and marines, as shall be adjudged best to deserve them by the superior officers, who shall be appointed to make such determination.

He who shall first board a ship or other vessel, making resistance, which shall become a prize, shall be intitled to a triple share.

Provided always, and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of the parties to the aforementioned articles and orders, that any of the officers, seamen and marines, shall be liable to be removed by the Congress or committee of the Congress, during the recess thereof, or by the Commander in Chief of the American fleet for the time being, from the aforesaid vessel to any other armed vessel in the service of the United Colonies, any thing containing in the foregoing orders and articles notwithstanding.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on North-Carolina, whereupon.

Resolved, That the two battalions which the Congress directed to be raised in the Colony of North-Carolina, be encreased to the continental establishment, and kept in pay at the expence of the United Colonies for one year from this time, or until the farther order of Congress, as well for the purpose of defending the good people of that Colony, against the attacks of ministerial oppression, as assisting the adjacent Colonies.

That the delegates of the Colony of North-Carolina, be directed to purchase a number of drums, fifes and colours suitable for the said battalions, and that the president be directed to draw on the continental

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treasurers for a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars for the payment thereof.

That the convention or committee of safety of North-Carolina, be desired to employ immediately all the gunsmiths in that Colony, in the making of musquets and bayonets of the size, and in the manner recommended by Congress the 4th of this instant, November.

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of North-Carolina, in case the method of defending the said Colony by minute men be inadequate to the purpose, to substitute such other mode as to them shall appear most likely to effect the security of that Colony.

Agreeable to the order of the day the Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the memorials of the tea-holders, and the same being debated.

On the question put to agree to it. Carried in the negative.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, November 29, 1775,*

A letter from General Schuyler by express being received, was read, containing an account of the continental troops under Brigadier General Montgomery, having taken possession of Montreal on the 12th inst.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of Downham Newton, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That the said Downham Newton be permitted to export on board his vessel on the terms proposed in his petition, such provisions of pork and flour as he shall think proper.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the state of the treasury, and thereupon came to the following resolution.

Resolved, That bills of credit be emitted by Congress to the amount of three millions of dollars.

That the committee on the state of the treasury be directed to consult the printer, and report the numbers and denominations of the bills to be emitted, and that they contract for proper paper for printing the said bills.

The committee on the proclamations brought in their report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, November 30, 1775.*

Resolved, That the committee appointed to revise the journal of last session, be directed to revise the journal of the present, in order to its being printed; and that it be an instruction to the said committee, to examine whether it will yet be proper to publish any of those parts omitted in the journal of last session.

Resolved, That Mr. Wythe be added to the said committee, in the room of Mr. Rutledge, who is absent.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare letters of thanks to the three general officers in the northern department for their services.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. W. Livingston, and Mr. Jay.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of General Washington's letter, and thereupon came to the following resolutions.

Resolved, That the general be directed to suspend the raising the two battalions of marines out of his present army.

That the two battalions of marines be raised independent of the army already ordered for the service in Massachusetts-Bay.

That no bounty be allowed to the army on re-enlistment.

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Sundry

Sundry letters from General Schuyler, W. Livingston, Esq. and the committee sent to the northward being received, were read.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the general's letter, and the other matters to this day referred, be postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, December 1, 1775.*

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from General Washington, whereupon, Resolved, That the five hundred thousand dollars lately ordered, be forwarded with all possible expedition to General Washington, that he may be enabled to pay such soldiers as will re-enlist for the succeeding year, their wages for the months of October, November and December, and also advance them one month's pay.

That the governments of New-England be informed of the resolution of Congress relative to the pay ordered to be made and advanced to the army, and be desired to promote the recruiting service in the present army, as well as in their several colonies.

A letter from the committee of Frederick-Town, in Maryland, was received and read, containing an account of their having apprehended Major Connolly and his associates, and desiring the advice of Congress with regard to the prisoners.

Resolved, That the said letters, with the papers inclosed, be referred to the delegates of Virginia.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the general's letter, and the other matters to this day referred, be postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, December 2, 1775.*

A letter from the committee of Northampton in Virginia, with sundry papers inclosed, was received and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the committee on the state of Virginia.

Resolved, That Mr. Paca be added to that committee in the room of Mr. Johnson, who is absent.

Resolved, That the naval committee be directed to confer with Captain Stone, and engage him and his vessel on the most reasonable terms in the service of the continent, for the purpose of taking or destroying the cutters and armed vessels in Chesapeake Bay, under lord Dunmore.

Resolved, That Colonel Harrison do immediately proceed to Maryland, and be empowered with the delegates of that Colony, or any one or more of them, to take such measures as appear to them most effectual to procure, with all possible dispatch, two or three armed vessels to cruize on, take or destroy armed vessels, cutters, and ships of war of the enemy, that may be found in the bay of Chesapeake, or coasts of Virginia and Maryland.

Whereas designs are formed by certain ministerial partizans in the counties of Norfolk and Princess-Ann, and some other parts of Virginia, on Chesapeake-Bay, under the influence of Lord Dunmore, to contravene the non-exportation agreement, by exporting provisions and other produce of that country to the West-India islands, and thereby injure the interest and weaken the efforts of the United Colonies, in opposing the present oppressive system of the British ministry.

Resolved, That the said armed vessels be authorized and directed to seize and detain until the further order of this Congress, all such ships and vessels as they may find employed in such exportations from the places aforesaid.

Resolved, That the naval committee be directed to employ the armed sloop, commanded by Captain Abraham Whipple, of Rhode-Island, now on a voyage to this port, and dispatch her forthwith to aid the marine business to the southward.

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That the said committee be directed to prepare a proper commission for the captains or commanders of the ships of war in the service of the United Colonies.

Resolved, That the colonel or commanding officer of the battalion now in the barracks at Philadelphia, be ordered to keep a regular guard over the ships and stores belonging to the United Colonies, at or on the wharfs, or in the stores on the wharfs of Messrs. Willing and Morris, and Mr. Cuthbert.

The assembly of New-Jersey having by a resolution of their house, accepted the resignation of two of their delegates, and confirmed the other three, and by another resolution enlarged their power, the said resolutions were laid before Congress, and read as follows :

*New-Jersey, House of Assembly,  
Nov. 22, 1775.*

The house taking into consideration the request of James Kinsey and John D. Hart, Esquires, two of the delegates appointed by this house to attend the Continental Congress, for leave to resign their said appointment.

Resolved, That the reasons given by those gentlemen for their resignation appear to this house to be satisfactory, and that their resignation therefore be accepted, thereupon

Resolved, That the three remaining delegates, or any two of them, represent the Colony during the present Continental Congress.

*Thursday, November 30, 1775.*

The house taking into consideration the inconvenience arising from requiring the attendance of two of the delegates to represent the Colony in the Continental Congress.

Resolved, That any one of the three delegates appointed to attend the Congress be, and such delegate is hereby fully authorized to represent this Colony during Congress.

A true copy from the votes,

RICH. SMITH, Clk. of Assembly.

The committee appointed to prepare the form of a commission reported the same, which was read and agreed to.

Ordered, That three hundred copies be immediately printed with proper blanks.

Application being made in behalf of Captain Jenkins, for leave to export a quantity of provisions to the island of Nantucket, for the internal consumption of its inhabitants, and it being represented that he had applied to the assembly or general court of Massachusetts-Bay, and that the committee of Falmouth, to whom he was by them referred, not having it in their power to furnish the provisions wanted, had recommended him to Congress to be supplied with the same at some port in the middle or southern Colonies.

Resolved, That permission be granted to Captain Jenkins, to carry the provisions specified in the certificate of the committee of Falmouth, for the internal consumption of the inhabitants of Nantucket, he first taking an oath, and giving bond to the committee of inspection and observation, for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, to pursue their instructions in his voyage, and to use his utmost endeavours not to fall into the power of the cutters or armed vessels of the enemy.

The committee on the state of the treasury brought in a report, which was read, whereupon,

Resolved, That the number and denominations of the bills ordered to be emitted be as follows :

83,334 of 8 dollars each  
83,333 of 7 do.  
83,333 of 6 do.  
83,333 of 5 do.  
83,334 of 4 do.  
83,333 of 3 do.  
83,333 of 2 do.  
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Resolved, That the plates used in  
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the last emission be used for striking off and printing the above bills.

Resolved, That the gentlemen who superintended the press at the last emission, be impowered to superintend the printing these bills.

Resolved, That the committee on the state of the treasury be directed to enquire about proper persons to sign and number said bills, and report to Congress.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the general's letter, whereupon,

Resolved, That the regiment of artillery consist of one colonel, two lieutenant-colonels, two majors, and twelve companies.

That the general be informed that two gentlemen, namely, Thomas Crafts, jun. and George Trott, Esquires, have been recommended to Congress as proper persons for field officers in said regiment, and that the general enquire into their characters and abilities, and if upon enquiry he shall judge them proper, and that the appointment of them will occasion no disturbance or disgust in the regiment, that he appoint them and acquaint Congress thereof.

Resolved, That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to contract for supplying the prisoners, that Mr. D. Franks, of this city, be permitted to supply the troops, who are prisoners in this Colony, with provisions and other necessaries at the expence of the crown, and to sell his bills for such sums of money as are necessary for that purpose, and that the said committee confer with Mr. Franks, and enquire whether he will also undertake on the same terms to supply the prisoners in other Colonies.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee, whereupon,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assembly or general court of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, to

use all the means in their power, that the army before Boston be supplied with wood and hay on the most reasonable terms.

That in the new establishment of the army the general officers be not allowed regiments, nor the field officers companies.

That all persons taken in arms on board any prize be deemed prisoners at the disposal of the general, whether the prize be taken by vessels fitted out in the pay of the continent or by others.

That such as are taken be treated as prisoners of war, but with humanity, and be allowed the same rations as the troops in the service of the continent; that the officers being in pay should supply themselves with cloaths, their bills to be taken for the same, that the soldiers be furnished as they now are.

That as the new army in Massachusetts-Bay is calculated to oppose the army at Boston, it is not expected that the general should detach any part of it to New-York or elsewhere, unless it appear to him necessary so to do for the common safety.

That the troops in the new army be paid monthly.

That an exchange of prisoners will be proper, citizens for citizens, officers for officers of equal rank, and soldier for soldier.

That Ensign Moland be detained in the place where he now is, until exchanged.

That this Congress approve the terms on which the artificers of different sorts have been employed in the army; and that the general go on upon the present agreement, as being the best that can probably be made.

That the general be directed to pick out from each of the rifle companies such as are not marksmen, and dismiss them in such manner as will be safest, with an allowance of pay to go home, if they do not chuse

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to inlist in other battalions, and in the mean time that all receive their pay.

That what artillery of different kinds can be spared from New-York and Crown-Point, be procured and forwarded to the army before Boston.

That the Indians of St. Francis, Penobscot, Stockbridge, and St. John's, and other tribes, may be called on in case of real necessity, and that the giving them presents is suitable and proper.

That a committee of three be appointed to devise the best mode of having expresses (persons of character) posted along the roads at different distances, for the purpose of conveying early and frequent intelligence.

The members chosen, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Deane.

That as much lead as can be spared from the northern department, and is wanted at the camp at Cambridge, be sent down from Ticonderoga to Cambridge.

That the Congress approve the general's fitting out armed vessels to intercept the enemies supplies.

That when the army receives such supplies of powder as to be enabled to spare some to the country, that it be sold to them at a reasonable price.

That the secret committee be directed to enquire what articles are necessary for the use of the army, and how they may be procured and report to Congress.

Ordered, That the resolutions passed on the general's letters, and on the report of the committee of conference and other resolutions as relate to the establishment of the new army, not already forwarded, be sent by express to the general.

The Congress being informed that Mr. Ethan Allen, who was taken prisoner near Montreal, is confined in irons on board a vessel in the river St. Lawrence.

Resolved, That General Washing-

ton be directed to apply to General Howe on this matter, and desire that he may be exchanged.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, December 4, 1775.*

The committee to whom the accounts from Massachusetts-Bay were referred, reported that for want of proper vouchers they were not able to proceed on that business, and therefore desiring to be discharged.

Resolved, That the said committee upon their request be discharged.

Resolved, That the sum of forty thousand dollars be advanced to the colony of New-Hampshire, on account of expences by them incurred, the said Colony to be accountable.

Resolved, That the sum of four hundred and forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars, and one-third of a dollar, be paid to the colony of Massachusetts-Bay in part of their account, the said Colony to be accountable.

Resolved, That the said sums be paid out of the emission last ordered by Congress.

The committee on the state of Virginia to whom were referred the letters received on Saturday last, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That three companies of the battalions raised in the colony of Pennsylvania immediately march under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Irvine, into Northampton county, in Virginia, for the protection of the association in those parts, and for the defence thereof against the designs of the enemies of America.

Resolved, That it be and it is hereby recommended to the inhabitants of the colony of Virginia, to resist to the utmost the arbitrary government intended to be established therein, by their governor lord Dunmore, as manifestly appears by the whole

whole tenor of his lordship's conduct for some months past.

Whereas lord Dunmore, by his proclamation lately published, has declared his intention to execute martial law, thereby tearing up the foundations of civil authority and government within the said Colony.

Resolved therefore, That if the convention of Virginia shall find it necessary to establish a form of government in that Colony, it be recommended to that convention to call a full and free representation of the people, and that the said representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such form of government, as in their judgment will best produce the happiness of the people, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the Colony, during the continuance of the present dispute between Great-Britain and the Colonies.

Resolved, That the committee on the state of Virginia have leave, at their request, to sit again.

Resolved, That in the present situation of affairs, it will be very dangerous to the liberties and welfare of America, if any Colony should separately petition the King or either house of parliament.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the assembly of New-Jersey.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Jay.

Resolved, That Carlisle, in the colony of Pennsylvania, be assigned, as well as the three towns of Reading, Lancaster, and York, for the reception of the prisoners taken at St. John's.

Resolved, That the president write to Mr. Knox by the first express to Albany, and desire him, in case the service he is upon will admit, to repair to the fortresses on Hudson's River, in the highlands, and inspect the state of the works carrying on there, and the situation of the places adjacent, and transmit an account thereof to Congress.

The delegates of Massachusetts Bay, laid before Congress a resolution of the general court of that Colony passed in November last, extending the commission of their delegates to the last day of January, which was read.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow,

*Tuesday, December 5, 1775.*

Resolved, That the naval committee be instructed to engage the seamen and marines to the first of January 1777, unless sooner discharged. It being suggested that the resolution of Congress passed the 2d instant, relative to Captain Jenkins, was grounded on a mistake with regard to facts.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take the matter into consideration, enquire into facts, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Cushing, and Mr. M'Kean.

The committee of claims applying for instructions, with regard to sundry charges in the accounts laid before them from the colony of Rhode-Island.

Resolved, That the charge for purchase of arms be not allowed.

That the charge for repairing arms be not allowed.

That the expence of removing the stock from Block-Island and other places, in consequence of the request of the general be charged to the continent.

That the twelve cannon furnished to the army in the camp at Cambridge by the government of Rhode-Island, be allowed in their accounts.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of this matter be deferred till to-morrow.

Resolved, That those who supply the three companies ordered to Northampton with arms, shall either have the same returned in kind as soon as they can be procured, or their va-

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be paid for by the United Colonies, the value of which is to be deducted from the pay of the soldiers.

A letter from Lord Sterling, with sundry papers enclosed, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the naval committee have liberty to purchase duck and such other articles as they may want for fitting out said vessels, and to enable them the better to perform this service, that they may be empowered to take to their assistance the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia.

Resolved, That the form of the bills ordered to be emitted be as follows :

#### CONTINENTAL CURRENCY.

N<sup>o</sup>. Dollar

This bill entitles the bearer to receive Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a resolution of Congress passed at Philadelphia, November 29, 1775.

Resolved, That each denomination or class of bills be numbered, beginning with one, upwards, in ink of a different colour from the last emitted bills.

The committee on re-captures brought in their report, which being read and debated, the Congress came to the following resolution.

Resolved, That in cases of recaptures, the re-captors have and retain in lieu of salvage one eighth part of the true value of the vessel and cargo, or either of them, if the same hath or have been in possession of the enemy twenty-four hours, one fifth part if more than twenty-four hours, and less than forty-eight hours; one third part, if more than forty-eight and less than ninety-six hours, and one half if more than ninety-six hours, unless the vessel shall, after the capture, have been legally condemned as a prize by some court of admiralty, in which case the recaptors to have the whole; in all which

cases, the share detained or prize to be divided between the owners of the ship making the recapture, the Colony or the continent as the case may be, and the captors, agreeable to a former resolution.

Resolved, As the army to the northward is likely to be supplied with cloathing at Montreal, that the cloathing purchased for the said army and sent to Albany, be forwarded by land to Mr. Mifflin, quarter-master-general, for the use of the army before Boston.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, December 6, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Robert Ervin for waggon hire, the sum of 355.7 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That the three prisoners taken by Capt. A. Whipple in his passage to Philadelphia, who are now on board his vessel be delivered to the committee of safety of the Colony of Pennsylvania, who are directed to secure them in safe custody, in some gaol in said Colony.

A return being laid before Congress of the number of flints for sale in the city of Philadelphia, amounting to upwards of 200,000.

Resolved, That the committee of inspection of the city and liberties of Philadelphia be desired to purchase said flints for the use of the United Colonies, and that in making the purchase, attention be paid to that part of the association against raising the prices of goods.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the instructions to be given to the committee of claims, and on the question put.

Resolved, That the charge for bounty in the account exhibited by Rhode-Island against the United Colonies be re-allowed.

The committee to whom the petition



tition of Dougal M'Gregor was referred, brought in their report, which being read was agreed to.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on proclamations, which being debated by paragraphs was agreed to as follows :

We the delegates of the Thirteen United Colonies in North-America, have taken into our most serious consideration, a proclamation issued from the court of St. James's on the twenty-third day of August last. The name of Majesty is used to give it a sanction and influence; and, on that account, it becomes a matter of importance to wipe off, in the name of the people of these United Colonies, the aspersions, which it is calculated to throw upon our cause; and to prevent, as far as possible, the undeserved punishments which it is designed to prepare for our friends. We are accused of "forgetting the allegiance which we owe to the power that has protected and sustained us." Why all this ambiguity and obscurity in what ought to be so plain and obvious, as that he who runs may read it? What allegiance is it that we forget! Allegiance to parliament! We never owed—we never owned it. Allegiance to our King? Our words have ever avowed it, our conduct has ever been consistent with it. We condemn, and with arms in our hands,—a resource which freemen will never part with, we oppose the claim and exercise of unconstitutional powers, to which neither the crown nor parliament were ever entitled. By the British constitution, our best inheritance, rights, as well as duties, descend upon us; we cannot violate the latter by defending the former; we should act in diametrical opposition to both, if we permitted the claims of the British parliament to be established, and the measures pursued in consequence of those claims to be carried into execution among us. Our

sagacious ancestors provided moulds against the inundation of tyranny and lawless power on one side, as well as against that of faction and licentiousness on the other. On which side has the breach been made? Is it objected against us by the most inveterate and the most uncandid of our enemies, that we have opposed any of the just prerogatives of the crown, or any legal exertion of those prerogatives? Why then are we accused of forgetting our allegiance? We have performed our duty, we have resisted in those cases, in which the right to resist is stipulated as expressly, on our part, as the right to govern is, in other cases, stipulated on the part of the crown. The breach of allegiance is removed from our resistance as far as tyranny is removed from legal government. It is alledged that "we have proceeded to an open and avowed rebellion." In what does this rebellion consist. It is thus described—"Arraying ourselves in hostile manner to withstand the execution of the law, and traitorously preparing, ordering and levying war against the King." We know of no laws binding on us, but such as have been transmitted to us by our ancestors, and such as have been consented to by ourselves or our representatives elected for that purpose. What laws, stamp with these characters, have we withstood? We have indeed defended them; and we will risque every thing, do every thing, and suffer every thing in their defence. To support our laws, and our liberties established by our laws, we have prepared, ordered, and levied war. But is this traitorously, or against the King? We view him as the constitution represents him. That tells us he can do no wrong. The cruel and illegal attacks, which we oppose, have no foundation in the royal authority. We will not, on our part, lose the distinction between the King and his ministers: happy would it have been for some former

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Besides all this we observe, on this part of the proclamation, that "rebellion" is a term undefined and unknown in the law. It might have been expected, that a proclamation, which, by the British constitution has no other operation than merely that of enforcing what is already law, would have had a known legal basis to have rested upon. A correspondence between the inhabitants of Great Britain and their brethren in America produced, in better times, much satisfaction to individuals, and much advantage to the public. By what criterion shall one, who is unwilling to break off this correspondence, and is, at the same time, anxious not to expose himself to the dreadful consequences threatened in this proclamation—by what criterion shall he regulate his conduct? He is admonished not to carry on correspondence with the persons now in rebellion in the Colonies. How shall he ascertain 'who are in rebellion, or who are not.' He consults the law to learn the nature of the supposed crime: the law is silent upon that subject. This, in a country where it has been often said, and formerly with justice, that the government is by law and not by men, might render him perfectly easy. But proclamations have been some times dangerous engines in the hands of those in power. Information is commanded to be given to one of the secretaries of state of all persons "who shall be found carrying on correspondence with the persons in rebellion, in order to bring to condign punishment the authors, perpetrators, or abettors of such dangerous designs." Let us suppose, for a moment, that some persons in the colonies are in rebellion, and that those, who carry on correspondence with them, might learn by some rule, which Britons are bound to know, how to discriminate them, does it

follow that all correspondence with them deserves to be punished? It might have been intended to apprise them of their danger, and to reclaim them from their crimes. By what law does a correspondence with a criminal transfer or communicate his guilt. We know that those who aid and adhere to the King's enemies; and those, who correspond with them in order to enable them to carry their designs into effect, are criminal in the eye of the law. But the law goes no farther. Can proclamations, according to the principles of reason and justice, and the constitution go farther than the law?

But, perhaps, the principles of reason and justice, and the constitution will not prevail: experience suggests to us the doubt. If they should not, we must resort to arguments drawn from a very different source. We therefore, in the name of the people of these United Colonies, and by authority, according to the purest maxims of representation, derived from them, declare, that whatever punishment shall be inflicted upon any persons in the power of our enemies for favouring, aiding or abetting the cause of American liberty, shall be retaliated in the same kind, and the same degree, upon those in our power, who have favoured, aided, or abetted, or shall favour, aid or abet the system of ministerial oppression. The essential difference between our cause and that of our enemies, might justify a severer punishment: the law of retaliation will unquestionably warrant one equally severe.

We mean not, however, by this declaration, to occasion or to multiply punishments: our sole view is to prevent them. In this unhappy and unnatural controversy, in which Britons fight against Britons, and the descendants of Britons, let the calamities immediately incident to a civil war suffice. We hope additions will not from wantonness be made to them

on one side: we shall regret the necessity, if laid under the necessity, of making them on the other.

Ordered, That the above be published.

A memorial from Colonel Bull was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the same be taken into consideration on Friday next.

Resolved, That Lieutenant Feltham have leave to join the officers of the 26th regiment, and reside with them in the places destined for their reception.

Resolved, That Major Preston, and the officer with him remain in Philadelphia until farther orders from Congress.

Ordered, That the president inform Major Preston of this resolution.

A letter from General Washington, dated 28th November being received, was read.

Resolved, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to morrow.

*Thursday, December 7, 1775.*

The Congress being informed that the women and children taken at St. John's with the baggage, were arrived.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of the Colony of Pennsylvania, to have them removed in the cheapest manner, at the expence of the United Colonies, to the places assigned them.

Resolved, That Lieutenant George Cuppage of the 26th regiment, be permitted to go to New-York for a week upon his parole, that he will neither speak nor write to any person upon any political subject, or give any intelligence whatsoever upon such topics, and will return to Philadelphia at the end of the week.

A letter from Lord Sterling, dated the 6th was received and read.

The Congress taking into consideration the general's letter of the 28th ult. came to the following resolutions.

Whereas doubts may arise respecting the true intent and construction of a certain resolution of Congress, passed the 4th day of November last, empowering the general, in case the necessity of the service should require it, to call forth the minute men and militia of the New-England Colonies.

Resolved, That the said resolution shall not extend or be construed to authorize the general to call forth the said minute-men or militia without having applied to and obtained the consent of those officers, in whom the executive powers of government in those colonies may be vested.

Resolved, That the president write letters to the council of Massachusetts-Bay, the convention of New-Hampshire, and the governors of Rhode-Island and Connecticut, acquainting them with the present state of the army, and inclosing copies of the resolutions of this Congress relative to the general's being empowered to call forth the militia of those governments, on any emergency, and requesting those colonies to exert themselves in defence of our common liberties, by affording the general all the aid in their power, and comply with his request for the assistance of the militia whenever he may find it necessary to apply for it.

A letter from General Schuyler of the 22d of November, together with a copy of a letter from Gen. Montgomery of the 17th, and one from Colonel Arnold of the 14th of the same month, being received, were read.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, December 8, 1775.*

The committee to whom the petition of Captain Jenkins, was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

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The committee to whom the letter from the committee of inspection of the county of Frederic, in Maryland, relative to Allen Cameron, John Smith, and John Connolly, with the papers enclosed, was referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration.

Resolved, That the said Allen Cameron, John Smith, and John Connolly, be confined in prison at Philadelphia at the continental expense, until the further order of Congress.

Ordered, That the president transmit a copy of the above resolution to the committee of Frederic, and desire them in pursuance thereof to send the prisoners under guard to Philadelphia.

Resolved, That the petition of Jonathan Hudson, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Penn, and Mr. R. Morris.

The Congress taking into consideration the letters from Lord Sterling came to the following resolutions.

Resolved, That Mr. Thomas Lowry be appointed to supply the battalions raised in New-Jersey, with the rations and other necessaries allowed them  $\frac{7}{8}$  of a dollar per ration.

Resolved, That Mr. Crane be directed to give Mr. Lowry proper orders for securing for the use of the battalions raised in New-Jersey, the blankets in the barracks of that Colony.

Resolved, That a surgeon be allowed to each battalion in the service of the United Colonies; and that his pay be twenty-five dollars per calendar month.

Whereupon William Barnet, junr. was elected surgeon to Lord Stirling's, or the first battalion raised in New-Jersey.

Resolved, That a standing committee composed of a member from each Colony, be appointed to receive the applications, and examine into the qualifications of the several per-

sons, who apply for officers in the American army, and report to Congress.

The members are, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Ward, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Jay, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Allen, Mr. Rodney, Mr. F. L. Lee, Mr. Penn, and Mr. Lynch.

Resolved, That the part of Lord Sterling's letter, which respects the arresting and imprisoning soldiers for small sums, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. W. Livingston.

Resolved, That Mr. Bedford, the deputy muster-master general, who is now in town, be directed to muster the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, and make return to Congress as soon as possible.

The committee on establishing express, brought in their report, which was read.

Ordered, That the letter from General Schuyler, with the enclosed letters from General Montgomery and Colonel Arnold, be published.

The several matters to this day referred, being farther postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, December 9, 1775.*

Resolved, That the committee appointed to fit out armed vessels, be empowered to employ the following officers, and that their pay be as follows, viz.

Dollars per calendar month.

Midshipman	12
Armourer	15
Sailmaker	12
Yeoman	9
Quarter-master	9
Quarter-gunner	8
Cook	12
Coxswain.	9

Pilot according to the usual rates; when absolutely necessary; the commander to give such farther gratuity as may be necessary for the good of the service.



Resolved, That an order issue for raising four battalions more in the Colony of Pennsylvania, on the same terms as the one already raised.

Resolved, That a like order issue for raising one battalion in the lower counties on Delaware, on the same terms as those ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania.

The Congress took into consideration the letters from General Schuyler, from the 11th of November inclusive, and thereupon came to the following resolutions.

Resolved, That the orders given to General Montgomery to purchase cloathing at Montreal for the troops under his command, be and are approved.

Resolved, That the officers, who are prisoners, be allowed to sell their bills for their subsistence.

Resolved, That Major Preston, Captain Kinnear, Captain Goodwin, and Major Stopford, pay to the continental treasurers the sums advanced them by General Schuyler, and that General Schuyler be informed of this resolution, and desired to send their obligations to the treasurers.

Resolved, That General Montgomery be appointed a major general in the army of the United Colonies.

Resolved, That the sum of 166 dollars per month be allowed to the commander for the time being in the province of Canada, and residing there for the expence of his table, over and above the pay, to which he may be entitled by his commission.

Resolved, That the several other matters in General Schuyler's letters, and the enclosed papers, except what relates to Mr. Phelps, be referred to a committee of three, who are to take the same into consideration and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Wythe.

Resolved, That the sum of 3000

dollars be advanced to Carpenter Wharton, who has contracted to supply the battalion raised in Pennsylvania at 7.90 of a dollar per ration, the same to be paid him on his signing the contract, and giving security for the performance thereof.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to William Chew for riding express to the salt-petre rock in Virginia, and bringing samples of the mineral, the sum of 84.3 dollars.

Ordered, That the above be paid.

Colonel Dyer produced an account, amounting to 1956 dollars for medicines bought and forwarded to the camp at Cambridge.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in his favour for that sum.

The commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, laid before Congress the minutes of their proceedings.

Ordered, That the same be referred to Wednesday next.

Resolved, That Monday next be assigned for taking into consideration the instructions to the delegates of Rhode-Island.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, December 11, 1775.*

A letter from General Washington, dated 30th of November being received, was read, together, with an invoice of stores on board the Nancy transport, taken by the schooner Lee, Captain Manley; also a letter from the convention of New-York, dated 7th instant.

The committee to whom that part of Lord Stirling's letter, respecting the arresting and imprisoning soldiers for small sums was referred, brought in their report.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress took into consideration the instructions given to the delegates

of Rhode thereon.

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of Rhode-Island, and after debate thereon.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to devise ways and means for furnishing these Colonies with a naval armament, and report with all convenient speed.

Resolved, That the committee consist of a member from each Colony, viz. Mr. Bartlett, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Deane, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Crane, Mr. Morris, Mr. Read, Mr. Paca, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Hewes, and Mr. Gadson.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of Thomas Jenkins, of the island of Nantucket, for licence to sell his cargo of oil in this city, and to purchase a cargo of provisions and fuel for the necessary use of the inhabitants of said island, and the same was agreed to as follows

Resolved, That the vigilance and zeal of the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, in preventing the said Jenkins's cargo from being sold contrary to the resolutions of Congress is highly approved.

Resolved, That it appears to this Congress, that the inhabitants of said island are at present in great distress for want of the necessaries of life.

Resolved, That humanity requires that some speedy measures be taken by the Congress, to enable the said inhabitants to supply themselves with necessary fuel and provisions.

Resolved, That the select-men of the town of Sherbourne, in Nantucket, prepare an estimate of the quantity of fuel and provisions necessary for the use of said inhabitants, and lay it before three or more justices of the peace, for the county of Barnstable, in the Colony of Massachusetts-Bay, attested by the oath or affirmation of the said select-men; and that the said justices be empowered to grant licences under their

hands to any master or owner of vessels in the said island, to import fuel and provisions from the Colonies of Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, lower counties on Delaware, or Maryland, not exceeding the quantities specified in said estimate.

Resolved, Whereas it appears that the said inhabitants are in immediate danger of suffering for want of the necessaries of life, that the said Captain Jenkins be permitted, under the inspection of the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, to unload and sell his present cargo, and to purchase a cargo of fuel and provisions, provided he shall first make oath or affirmation before a magistrate and give bond, that the same is, bona fide, intended for the internal consumption of the said inhabitants, and that he will use his utmost endeavours, that it shall not fall into the hands of the enemies of the United Colonies.

The committee, to whom the petition of Jonathan Hudson was referred, reported their opinion in certain resolutions, which being read, were agreed to as follows.

Resolved, That so much of the said petition as prays for permission to export his cargo to any place, other than the islands of Great-Britain, Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Alderney or Mann, or the West India islands, is reasonable.

Resolved, That so much of the said petition as prays for farther permission is unreasonable.

Resolved, That the said petitioner give bond with sufficient security to the chairman of the committee of the town of Baltimore, under a penalty of double the value of said cargo, to export the said cargo to some place other than the islands of Great-Britain, or Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Al-

Alderney, Mann, and the islands of the West-Indies; and within six months after the said exportation, to produce to the said chairman a certificate of the port, to which the said cargo shall have been shipped, authenticated under the hands of two merchants of known characters and reputation residing in the same port; and that on executing such bond, the said chairman sign a permit to the said petitioner, allowing him to export the said cargo.

The Congress resuming the subject of emitting bills of credit.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be appointed to sign the number of the bills ordered to be emitted, viz. Samuel Morris, Frederick Kuhl, Stephen Collins, Nicholas Garrison, Matthew Clarkson, Samuel C. Morris, Thomas Barclay, Anthony Morris, jun. James Wharton, Benjamin Fuller, Joel Evans, Andrew Bunner, John Mease, Thomas Coombe, John Bayard, Robert Tuckniss, Isaac Hazlehurst, Thomas Morris, Samuel Caldwell, John Purviance, Mordecai Lewis, George Campbell, Joseph Parker, Daniel Clymer, Joseph Watkins, jun. John Shee, Phineas Bond, James Read, Robert Roberts, John Ord, Isaac Howel, William Webb, Jonathan B. Smith, Cornelius Barnes, Thomas Smith, and William Crispin.

Resolved, That each bill be signed and numbered by two of the foregoing gentlemen.

A petition from Mr. Phelps was presented and read.

Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The committee appointed to examine the qualifications of persons applying for offices, &c. reported Dr. Boyd as proper for the office of surgeon to the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, and Mr. Patterson adjutant, whereupon

Dr. Boyd was unanimously elected.

A petition from David Beveridge, being laid before Congress and read,

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Mr. Read, and Mr. Jefferson.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for the sum of 3000 dollars, in favour of the committee of correspondence.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned to take into consideration the report of the committee of conference respecting Boston.

A letter from the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, enclosing sundry papers, was received and read.

The committee on the credit of paper currency brought in their report.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, December 12, 1775.*

Resolved, That the intercepted letters of Brooke Watson, and the invoice of the cargo on board the brig Nancy transport, taken by the schooner Lee, Captain Manley, be published.

Sundry letters relative to a cargo of molasses, taken out of the brig Nancy, also a letter from the committee of Trenton, enclosing a parole signed by the officers there, were laid before Congress and read.

The committee appointed to prepare letters of thanks to the three general officers in the northern army, reported draughts, which being read and approved.

Ordered, That they be signed by the president and transmitted.

The committee on General Schuyler's letters brought in their report, which was read.

Resolved, That the allowance for a table, made to the commander for the time being in Canada, be granted to General Montgomery from the time he entered Canada.

Resolved, That this Congress will make a present of a sword of the val-

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lue of one hundred dollars, to Capt. Henry B. Livingston, as a testimony of their sense of his service to this country, and that they will embrace the first opportunity of promoting him in the army.

Resolved, That the sum of 120,000 dollars be advanced to the Colony of Rhode-Island in part of their account against the United Colonies, to be paid out of the emission last ordered, the said Colony to be accountable for the same.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress took into consideration the report of the committee of conference, and after debate.

Resolved, That the Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take this matter into farther consideration.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, December 13, 1775.*

A letter from General Washington of the 4th instant, enclosing sundry papers being received, was read.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for fitting out a naval armament, brought in their report, which being read and debated, was agreed to.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed with full powers to carry said report into execution.

Resolved, That the appointment of this committee be deferred till to-morrow.

Mr. Willing, one of the secret committee desiring to be excused on account of his living out of town, which rendered it impracticable for him to attend the committee, which usually meets in the evening.

Resolved, That he be excused, and that another be elected in his room.

The member chosen, Mr. R. Morris.

Resolved, That when this Congress shall adjourn, it will be necessary to appoint a committee to sit

during the adjournment, for the purpose of superintending the treasury, carrying on necessary correspondence, and such other services as shall be directed by Congress.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to consider and prepare instructions for the committee above-mentioned.

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Hooper, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Deane.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to fit out armed vessels, be authorized to give able bodied seamen, that may be willing to enter on board the ships of war of the United Colonies, eight dollars per calendar month.

Information being given that sundry persons in this city have lately sold tea.

Resolved, That the consideration of this matter be referred to Friday next.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, December 14, 1775.*

Resolved, That on the meeting of Congress, half an hour every morning be employed in reading the corrected copy of the journal, till the whole is gone through.

Resolved, That every morning, the minutes of the preceding day be read, before the Congress enter on new business.

Resolved, That the corrected journal, after being read, be transcribed, and sent to the press.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the appointment of a committee, to carry into execution the resolutions of Congress for fitting out a naval armament.

Resolved, That the said committee consist of a member from each Colony.

Resolved, That the choice be by ballot.

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The members chosen, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Hancock, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Deane, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Crane, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Read, Mr. Chase, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Gadsden, and Mr. Houstoun.

Resolved, That Lieutenant Way, of the 7th regiment, who is now a prisoner, have liberty to return to Great-Britain on his parole, not to take up arms against America during the present contest between Great-Britain and these colonies.

A petition from Peter Berlon, was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the said petition with the papers accompanying it, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Smith.

The several matters to this day referred, being further postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, December 15, 1775.*

Information being given to Congress, that Captain Motte, who had the charge of conducting the prisoners to Reading, and other towns in Pennsylvania, having performed that service, was returned to this city.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to distribute the prisoners confer with Captain Motte, and report to Congress.

Resolved, That the committee of safety for the Colony of Pennsylvania, be requested to recommend proper persons for field officers of the four battalions to be raised in the said Colony.

Resolved, That the said committee appoint proper persons for officers in the said battalions under the rank of majors.

Resolved, That similar orders be given to the committee of safety of the lower counties on Delaware, for recommending field officers, and appointing inferior officers, for the battalion to be raised in that Colony.

Resolved, That Messrs. George Meade and company, merchants, of

the city of Philadelphia, be permitted to export from the Colony of Virginia, so much of the produce of that county, as shall be equal in value to any quantity of salt, not exceeding six thousand bushels, which they shall carry and safely deliver there to the committee of safety or their order, who are empowered to regulate the prices of the said produce and salt; and that the said George Meade and company, having given to the delegates of the said Colony in this city bond with sufficient security, under a penalty of double the value of the said salt, that they will not carry any produce of the said Colony, which they may receive in return for their salt, to the islands of Great-Britain, Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Alderney, or Mann, or to the West-India islands, and producing to the committee of safety of the said Colony a certificate thereof, signed by the said delegates here, shall have a permit under the hand of the chairman of the said committee of safety to export the said produce, the said permit being to be endorsed on or annexed to a manifest of the cargo exported.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions for the committee, who are to sit during the recess of Congress, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee of claims reported that there is due to Robert Erwin, waggon-master, for the carriage of cloathing to Dobb's ferry, the sum of 40 dollars.

To Philip Livingston, Esq; for printing, &c. the sum of 56.2 dollars.

To sundries for provisions, &c. furnished to several companies of riflemen, the sum of 212 dollars, to be paid to Henry Wisner, Esq;

To the committee of observation at Prince-Town, for sundry expences, and for provisions furnished several rifle companies, the sum of 74.3 dollars, to be paid to Thomas Higgins.

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Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee to whom the second resolution in the report, relative to transports, was recommitted, brought in their report, which was read.

The several matters to this day referred, being further postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, December 16, 1775.*

A letter from General Washington of the 7th being received, was read.

A letter from the convention of New-York of the 9th being laid before Congress and read :

Ordered, That this be referred to the committee on the credit of the continental currency.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to carry into execution the resolutions of Congress relative to a naval armament, be empowered to draw on the treasurers from time to time for any sums, not exceeding 500,000 dollars, for carrying said resolutions into execution.

Resolved, That the delegates of Virginia and Maryland, be a committee to prepare instructions for Colonel Irvine.

The committee appointed to confer with Captain Motte, brought in a report, which was read.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Josiah Fessenden, for riding express three times to the camp at Cambridge, and once to Rhode-Island, and for expences and horse hire, a balance amounting to 126 dollars.

To Daniel King, for 36 days hire of a sulky for said J. Fessenden, the sum of 18 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Captain White Eyes, a Delaware chief, who came down with the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, being introduced to Congress, the president addressed him in the following manner.

*' Brother Captain WHITE EYES.*

*' We are glad to see you, and we*

bid you welcome to this council fire kindled for all the United Colonies.

*' We have heard of your friendship for your brethren, the white people, and how useful you have been in preserving peace and harmony between your nation and us, and we thank you for those services.*

*' We are pleased that the Delawares intend to embrace christianity. We will send you, according to your desire, a minister and a school-master to instruct you in the principles of religion, and other parts of useful knowledge.*

*' We shall be happy in improving every opportunity that shall offer, for convincing your nation, and all other nations of Indians, of our friendly disposition towards them.*

*' Before you leave this city we will give you some particular testimony of our regard for you.'*

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee, who conferred with Captain Motte.

Upon motion made, Resolved, That the officers be distributed in such places as are most agreeable to themselves, observing always the former resolutions of Congress on this subject, and that the officers and privates be not stationed in the same places, until the further orders of Congress.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with Major Preston, and with him fix on an agent to negotiate his bills; and with the money arising from the sale of said bills, to supply the prisoners taken at St. John's, with cloathing and other necessities.

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. S. Adams.

Resolved, That the privates who are prisoners, and have been left by Captain Motte at Lancaster, be allowed to remain in that place till the further orders of Congress.

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding 80 dollars be paid to Capt Motte, being so much advanced and paid by

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him for necessaries to his men in conducting the prisoners.

Resolved, That the distribution of the prisoners made by Captain Motte be approved.

Resolved, That it be a standing rule of Congress, that no person be allowed to make any motion after 12 o'clock, without special leave, until the orders of the day are either determined or put off to another day.

A petition from sundry merchants of Philadelphia, was presented and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Morris, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Hooper.

The committee to whom the petition of Mr. Beveridge was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, December 18, 1775.*

The committee appointed to confer with Major Preston, reported their proceedings, and that they had not yet come to a conclusion with him on the matter given them in charge.

Resolved, That Major Preston have leave to go with Captain Motte to Lancaster, and to remain there 10 days, if he choose to tarry so long.

Resolved, That a copy of the resolutions of Congress relative to the disposal of the prisoners, and of the parole to be signed by the officers, be sent to the committee of inspection of Lancaster; and that an order issue to the said committee to take the parole of the officers there, and transmit the same to Congress.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Capt. Edward Motte, for the farther sum of 80 dollars, he to be accountable for the same.

Sundry affidavits from Wyoming relative to disturbances there, between

the people of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, being laid before the Congress and read;

After debate, Resolved, That the consideration of this matter be referred till to-morrow.

Letters from General Schuyler, with sundry letters and papers enclosed being received, were read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Hooper, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Jefferson.

The sundry matters to this day referred, being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, December 19, 1775.*

Agreeable to the order of the day the Congress resumed the consideration of the general's letter, and the report of the committee on the second resolution in their former report, which was recommitted, and thereupon came to the following resolution:

Resolved, That all transport vessels in the same service having on board any troops, arms, ammunition, cloathing, provisions, or military, or naval stores of what kind soever, and all vessels to whomsoever belonging that shall be employed in carrying provisions or other necessaries to the British army or armies, or navy, that now are or shall hereafter be within any of the United Colonies, or any goods, wares, or merchandizes, for the use of such fleet and army, shall be liable to seizure, and with their cargoes shall be confiscated.

The committee on the qualifications of officers applying, and brought in a report, which was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on the state of Virginia, brought in their report, which being read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from General Washington being received, was read.

The several matters to this day referred, being farther postponed.

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*Wednesday, December 20, 1775.*

The committee of claims report, that there is due to fundry persons for necessities furnished to the rifle companies in Virginia, the sum of 640.5 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Thomas Rutherford.

To Rebecca Reynolds for horse hire, the sum of 6.9 dollars, and the same ought to be paid to Henry Wisner, Esq;

Ordered, That the above be paid.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of David Beveridge, which was agreed to.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the General's letter, and thereupon came to the following resolution:

Resolved, That the several vessels heretofore taken and carried into Massachusetts-Bay by the armed vessels in the service of the United Colonies, be proceeded against by the rules of the law of nations, and libelled in the courts of admiralty erected in said Colony.

The Congress taking into consideration the dispute between the people of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, on the waters of Susquehannah, came to the following resolution.

Whereas a dispute subsists between some of the inhabitants of the Colony of Connecticut, settled under the claim of the said Colony, on the lands near Wyoming, on the Susquehannah river, and in the Delaware country, and the inhabitants settled under the claim of the proprietors of Pennsylvania, which dispute, it is apprehended, will, if not suspended during the present troubles in these Colonies, be productive of pernicious consequences, which may be very prejudicial to the common interest of the United Colonies, therefore

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Congress, and it is accordingly recommended, that the contending

parties immediately cease all hostilities, and avoid every appearance of force, until the dispute can be legally decided; that all the property taken and detained be restored to the original owners, that no interruption be given by either party to the free passing and repassing of persons behaving themselves peaceably through the disputed territory, as well as by land as water, without molestation of either persons or property; that all persons seized on and detained, on account of said dispute, on either side, be dismissed and permitted to go to their respective homes; and that, things being put in the same situation they were before the late unhappy contest, they continue to behave themselves peaceably on their respective possessions and improvements, until a legal decision can be had on said dispute, or this Congress shall take further order thereon; and nothing herein done shall be construed in prejudice of the claim of either party.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, December 21, 1775.*

Ordered, That an authentic copy of the resolution passed yesterday relative to the dispute between the people of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, be transmitted to the contending parties.

The convention of Maryland having added two new members to their delegates, one of them attending produced the credentials of their appointment which were read, and are as follows:

ANNAPOLIS, (*Maryland*).

" *In Provincial Convention, Dec. 9, 1775.*

Resolved, That Robert Alexander and John Rogers, Esquires, together with those already appointed, be deputies to represent this province in the Continental Congress, and that the said deputies or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures, which



which such Congress shall deem necessary and effectual to obtain a redress of American grievances, and be authorized to represent and act for this province in any Continental Congress, which may be held before the 25th day of March next.

Extract from the minutes,

G. DUVAL, Clerk."

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the qualifications of officers applying, &c. and the same being debated.

Resolved, That 40 iron pots be provided for the soldiers, while in the barracks near Philadelphia.

Resolved, That the commissioned officers of each company be allowed every week a quarter of hickory or other wood in proportion.

Resolved, That there be provided for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania one hundred haversacks, a camp kettle for every six men, a tomahawk, canteen, cartouch box, knapsack, and two belts for each man.

Resolved, That a coat of uniform be provided for each soldier, and that what the coat costs more than the hunting shirt, which was to have been given them, be deducted from their wages.

Resolved, That the said battalion be paid one month's pay as soon as may be; that afterwards they receive monthly half a month's pay only, until so much is retained as will amount to the money advanced for their fire arms, cloathing, &c. and after which they shall receive their full pay monthly.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania to provide arms, for the three companies, which are ordered to march; and also to provide the articles ordered above for the use of the said battalion, and likewise to furnish the said battalion with drums, colours and fifes.

Dr. James Holmes was chosen surgeon to Colonel Maxwell's regiment.

Matthias Halsted, was elected quarter-master to Lord Stirling's regiment.

Resolved, That the committee on the qualifications of officers, &c. be directed to procure proper medicine-chests for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania and New-Jersey.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration that part of the report of the committee of conference, relative to an attack on Boston, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a determination thereon, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow morning resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the report of the committee of conference, relative to the attack on Boston.

Resolved, That Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Lee, and Mr. S. Adams be a committee to consider what allowance should be made to the officers, who are prisoners, for their support.

Resolved, That Mr. Regonville, a Canadian prisoner at Trenton, be permitted to come to Philadelphia, and there wait the orders of Congress.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, December 22, 1775.

A letter from General Schuyler of the 14th, also a letter from Lord Stirling of the same date, and a letter from Captain Livingston, being received, were read.

The committee appointed to fit out armed vessels, laid before Congress a list of the officers by them appointed, agreeable to the powers to them given by Congress, viz.

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Esek Hopkins, Esq. commander in chief of the fleet.

Dudley Saltonstall, captain of the Alfred.

Abraham Whipple, captain of the Columbus.

Nicholas Biddle, captain of the Andrew Doria.

John Burrows Hopkins, captain of the Cabot.

First Lieutenants. John Paul Jones, Rhodes Arnold, — Stanbury, Hersted Hacker, Jonathan Pitcher.

Second Lieutenants. Benjamin Seabury, Joseph Olney, Elisha Warner, Thomas Weaver, — M'Dougall.

Third Lieutenants. John Fanning, Ezekiah Burroughs, Daniel Vaughan.

Resolved, That commissions be granted to the above officers agreeable to their rank in the above appointment.

Resolved, That the committee for fitting out armed vessels, issue warrants to all officers employed in the fleet under the rank of third lieutenants.

Resolved, That the said committee be directed (as a secret committee) to give such instructions to the commander of the fleet, touching the operations of the ships under his command, as shall appear to the said committee most conducive to the defence of the United Colonies, and to the distress of the enemies naval forces and vessels bringing supplies to their fleets and armies, and lay such instructions before the Congress when called for.

Resolved, That the said committee be directed to consider how the shares of the prizes allotted to the captors ought to be divided between the officers and men, and report to Congress.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the Indians lately arrived, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. S. Adams.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the report of the committee of conference relative to an attack on Boston, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, and had come to a resolution thereon, which he was ready to report. The report of the committee being read, was agreed to as follows:

Resolved, That if General Washington and his council of war should be of opinion, that a successful attack may be made on the troops in Boston, he do it in any manner he may think expedient, notwithstanding the town and the property in it may thereby be destroyed.

Resolved, That the quarter-master-general have the rank of a colonel in the army of the United Colonies.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Benjamin Harrison, Esq. for his expences in his late journey to Maryland, the sum of 72.4 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Ordered, That the examination of Connolly and the others taken with him, also the papers found in said Connolly's possession be printed.

Resolved, That Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Hooper, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Deane, be a committee to examine the journals, and lay before Congress a list of the matters therein, that are unfinished, and which are proper to be acted upon.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, December 23, 1775.*

A letter from Lord Stirling of the 19th, being received, was read.

A petition from Seth Paddock, master of the sloop Mayflower, and Sylvanus Coffin, master of the schooner

Dolly,

Dolly, of the island of Nantucket, was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the said petition be referred to a committee of three, and that it be an instruction to said committee, to enquire what quantity of provisions and fuel is necessary for the annual internal consumption of the inhabitants of said island of Nantucket, and what quantity has been exported from the different ports of the United Colonies during the present month of December.

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Sherman.

One of the committee appointed to repair to Ticonderoga, and confer with General Schuyler, being returned, laid before Congress a report of their proceedings, which was read.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Ephraim Blaine for expences incurred by the treaty with the western Indians, and paid by him the sum of £533 19: 4.2, and that there is due to Ephraim Steel for sundries furnished two rifle companies, the sum of £14 8, which ought to be paid to the said Blaine; and also 4.8 due to John M'Kee, of which two last sums there ought to be charged to the continent, the sum of £5=13.3 dollars, for two Cwt. lead, and the remainder to the companies respectively, the whole being 1462.9 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The committee to whom the application from the convention of the colony of New-York, for the loan of £45000 was referred, brought in their report, which being read, was agreed to, and is as follows:

Notwithstanding it appears to this committee that the credit of the colony of New-York is unquestionable, and their application for the loan of £45000 was suggested by disinterested principles, yet, that it would not be advisable, in the opinion of this committee, for the Congress to make the loan proposed.

The committee appointed to con-

fer with the Indians, made report of their proceedings, which was read.

Whereas the colony of Connecticut has by a certain act of their assembly resolved, that no farther settlements be made on the lands disputed between them and Pennsylvania, without licence from the said assembly.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the colony of Connecticut not to introduce any settlers on the said lands, till the farther order of this Congress, or until the said dispute shall be settled.

The committee on the state of the treasury, brought in a report, which being read, and in part debated.

Resolved, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed.

The committee appointed to consider what articles are necessary for the army, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee to whom the petition of Peter Berton was referred, brought in their report, which being read, was agreed to and is as follows:

That after mature consideration had thereon, they are of opinion, that it is not advisable or proper for the Congress to grant the prayer of the said petition.

Ordered, That the delegates of Pennsylvania call on the treasurers, and enquire of them what sum of hard money they have collected, and report to Congress.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to confer with the Indians, conclude their conference with them, by returning them a friendly answer, and making them a small present.

The committee appointed to examine the journals, &c. laid before Congress a list of the several matters therein, which are yet unfinished.

Ordered, That the several committees, to whom any matters are referred, conclude their business with all convenient dispatch, and report to Congress.

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Ordered, That the second paragraph in General Schuyler's letter, relative to the measures taken by the ministerial agents, to engage the Indians in a war with these Colonies be published.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Tuesday next.

*Tuesday, December 26, 1775.*

Two letters from General Washington of the 14th and 16th, with one enclosed from Dr. Morgan, a letter from Governor Trumbull, of the 20th, with a resolution of the assembly of the colony of Connecticut; also a letter from sundry masters of vessels, dated Guadalope, September 19, being received, were read.

The deputy-muster-master-general, sent to Congress the muster-rolls of the Pennsylvania battalion by him mustered.

Resolved, That the deputy-muster-master be directed to repair to New-Jersey, and muster the battalions raised in that Colony, and make return to Congress.

Resolved, That Friday next be assigned for taking into consideration the propriety of opening the ports of the United Colonies, after the first day of March next.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the state of the treasury, and thereupon came to the following resolutions:

Whereas an estimate hath lately been formed of the public expence already arisen, and which may accrue in the defence of America, to the 10th day of June next, in pursuance whereof this Congress on the 29th day of November, resolved that a farther sum of three millions of dollars be emitted in bills of credit.

Resolved, That the Thirteen United Colonies be pledged for the redemption of the bills of credit so directed to be emitted.

That each Colony provide ways and means to sink its proportion of

the said bills, in such manner as may be most effectual, and best adapted to the condition, circumstances, and equal mode of levying taxes in each Colony.

That the proportion or quota of each respective Colony be determined, according to the number of inhabitants of all ages, including negroes and mulattoes in each Colony.

That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, or councils, or committees of safety of the respective Colonies to ascertain, by the most impartial and effectual means in their power, the number of inhabitants in each respective Colony, taking care that the lists be authenticated by the oaths of the several persons who shall be intrusted with this service; and that the said assemblies, conventions, councils, or committees of safety, do respectively lay before this Congress a return of the number of inhabitants of their respective Colonies, as soon as the same shall be procured.

That each Colony pay its respective quota in four equal payments, the first to be made on or before the last day of November 1783, the second on or before the last day of November 1784, the third on or before the last day of November 1785, and the fourth or last on or before the last day of November 1786, and that for this end, the several assemblies or conventions provide for laying and levying taxes in their respective Colonies towards sinking the continental bills: that the said bills be received by the collectors in payment of such taxes, and be by the collectors paid into the hands of the provincial treasurers, with all such other monies as they may receive in lieu of the continental bills, which other monies the provincial treasurers shall endeavour to get exchanged for continental bills, and where that cannot be done, shall send to the continental treasurers the deficiency in silver and gold, with the



the bills, making up the quota to be sunk in that year ; taking care to cut by a circular punch of an inch diameter an hole in such bills, and to cross the same thereby to render them unpassable, though the sum or value is to remain fairly legible ; and the continental treasurers as fast as they receive the said quotas shall, with the assistance of a committee of five persons to be appointed by the Congress, if sitting, or by the assembly, or convention of the province of Pennsylvania, examine and count the continental bills, and in the presence of the said committee, burn and destroy them, and the silver and gold sent them to make up the deficiencies or quotas they shall retain in their hands, until demanded in redemption of continental bills, that may be brought to them for that purpose, which bills so redeemed, they shall also burn and destroy in the presence of the said committee ; and the treasurers, whenever they have silver and gold in their hands for the redemption of continental bills, shall advertise the same, signifying that they are ready to give gold or silver for such bills to all persons requiring it in exchange.

The reports of the committees on General Schuyler's letters, and the report of the committee sent to Ticonderoga being read.

Resolved, That the same be recommended to Mr. Dickinson, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Langdon.

The report of the committee to whom was referred a paragraph of Lord Stirling's letter to the Congress, complaining that several of his recruits had been arrested and imprisoned for trifling debts, being taken into consideration, was agreed to as follows :

Whereas there is reason to believe that divers persons, either from inattention to the public good, or with design to retard the recruiting service, have arrested and imprisoned,

for very trifling debts, many soldiers, who had engaged to risque their lives in defence of the rights and liberties of America ; and as it has always been found necessary in time of war to regulate, and restrain a practice of such pernicious tendency, and in such cases to abate the rigour of the law :

Resolved therefore, That it be recommended to the several legislatures in these Colonies, whether assemblies or conventions, to pass acts or ordinances, prohibiting the arrests of continental soldiers for small debts ; and in order that the same rule may pervade all the Colonies, that no such soldier be arrested at the suit of any of his creditors, unless the said creditor make oath, that the said soldier is justly indebted to him in the sum of thirty-five dollars over and above all discounts ; and that the estate of no such soldier be liable to attachment at the suit of or for the benefit of all his creditors, unless their debts in the whole, on being ascertained by their oaths, shall amount to more than one hundred and fifty dollars.

Resolved, That the several letters received from Lord Stirling, be referred to a committee of three, who are directed to return an answer.

The members chosen, Mr. Adams, Mr. W. Livingston, and Mr. Jay.

Resolved, That the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, be supplied with gun-brushes, prickers, double worms, screw-drivers, and oil ; and that it be recommended to the committee of safety of the said Colony to provide the same.

Whereas this Congress, by a resolution passed the 15th day of July last, did direct that every vessel importing into these Colonies gunpowder, salt-petre, sulphur, and other military stores therein specified, within nine months from the date thereof, should be permitted to load and export the produce of these Colonies to the value of such powder and stores aforesaid, the non-exportation agree-

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ment notwithstanding, by permits from the committees of the several Colonies; to the end, therefore, that this Congress may be the better informed of the quantity of military stores, which are or shall be so imported, and of the produce exported in consequence of the resolution aforesaid.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all committees by whom any permits, under the said resolution, have been or may be granted, to transmit to this Congress, from time to time, a true account of the military stores, &c. imported, and of the produce exported, with the price and value of both.

Ordered, That the foregoing resolution be published.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions to Lieutenant-Colonel Irvine brought in a draught, which being read, was agreed to.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, December 27, 1775.*

A letter of the 21st, from the committee of inspection of the town of Lancaster, enclosing the paroles of the officers there, being received, was read.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with Captain Motte, and consult with him on the best method of providing the guard under his command with provisions on their return home.

The members chosen, Mr. Cushing, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Lynch.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on the state of Virginia, and after debate, the farther consideration thereof, at the request of a Colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to confer with Captain Motte, brought in their report, which being read, was agreed to as follows:

That they find some of said guard have upwards of 240 miles to march, that they will be content with eight

dollars each, and bear their own expences to their respective homes or to be supplied by a commissary, or any other way as the Congress shall judge best.

It is the opinion of the committee, that the said guard receive a sum not exceeding eight dollars each, in lieu of all other provision for their return, therefore,

Resolved, That Captain Motte be empowered to pay to his guard for the purpose aforesaid, a sum not exceeding eight dollars to any one, according to their respective distances, and that he return to the committee of claims, a list of his men, and an account of the payments to them made.

*Thursday, December 28, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Sacherval Wood, the sum of 91.9 dollars, for support of 17 men to the 21st December, who are confined in the goal of Philadelphia, by order of Congress.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of G. Wythe, Esq; one of the committees appointed to confer with the Indians for the sum of 13.3 dollars as a present to said Indians.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania for the sum of 8000 dollars, for the use of the battalion raised in said Colony, the said committee to be accountable for the same.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the state of Virginia, and thereupon came to the following resolution.

Resolved, That six battalions are necessary to be immediately raised in Virginia, and that they be raised accordingly, upon the same terms, and paid as the continental forces in the camp at Cambridge, unless the convention of that Colony can raise them on better terms.

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The Congress took into consideration the report of the secret committee, which being in part agreed to.

Resolved, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of New-York, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Deane, Mr. Wythe, Mr. W. Livingston, and Mr. Jay.

The committee to whom the petition of Captains Paddoc and Coffin was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, December 29, 1775.*

A petition of Captain Sellick was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the said petition, with the papers accompanying it, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Smith, Mr. Floyd, and Mr. F. Lee.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of Pennsylvania being read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Information being given to Congress of a quantity of arms and ammunition, which may be procured :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire farther into this matter.

The members chosen, Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Kean, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Lynch.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had come to certain resolutions which he was ready to report.

The report of the committee being read, the Congress took the same into consideration, and thereupon came to the following resolution.

Resolved, That as the importation of any uniuersally necessary commodity, and the exportation of our produce, to purchase the same, must give a proportionably greater opportunity to our enemies of making depredations on the property of the inhabitants of these Colonies, and of occasionally distressing them by intercepting such commodities, it is earnestly recommended to the several assemblies or conventions immediately to promote, by sufficient public encouragements, the making of salt in their respective Colonies.

Ordered, That the foregoing resolution be immediately published.

The committee on Indian trade brought in their report.

The committee on Lord Stirling's letters also brought in their report.

A letter of the 16th from the committee of correspondence in Virginia, was laid before Congress and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The order of the day being renewed, and the several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, December 30, 1775.*

Two letters from General Washington of the 19th and 21st, enclosing a copy of a letter to General Howe, and accompanied with a number of intercepted letters being received and read.

Resolved, That the letters, from the general and the intercepted letters, be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Deane, and Mr. S. Adams,

A letter from General Schuyler of the 21st being received was read.

Another letter from General Washington, dated 14th December, brought by two strangers, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That this be referred to the secret committee, who are desired to confer with the bearers, and to pursue

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Resolved, That Major Preston have leave to go to Amboy, to visit his uncle who lives there, and to remain in that place one week, and then to return to Philadelphia, and wait the orders of Congress.

The committee appointed to enquire into the grounds of the information, respecting a quantity of arms and ammunition being to be procured, report; that they have examined into the same, and have received intelligence that a quantity of arms and ammunition, and other articles, are concealed in Tyron county, in which also there are several Tories armed and enlisted in the enemies service, whereupon,

Resolved that the said committee be directed to communicate this intelligence to General Schuyler, and in the name of the Congress, desire him to take the most speedy and effectual measures for securing the said arms and military stores, and for disarming the said Tories, and apprehend their chiefs.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the said committee, for the sum of forty dollars, for expediting the business to them committed.

Ordered, That the delegates of Pennsylvania do immediately count the silver and gold in the treasury, and forward the same with all convenient speed, under a guard of five men to General Schuyler; and that the persons to be sent by the foregoing committee accompany said guard.

Resolved, That the treasurers be empowered to employ a broker to collect silver and gold, in exchange for continental bills of credit.

The committee on Captain Sellick's petition brought in their report, which was read.

The committee on the petition of

fundry merchants of Philadelphia, also brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday next.

*Monday, January 1, 1776.*

A letter from Governor Trumbull, dated the twenty-third of December, being received, was read.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on Captain Selleck's petition, which was agreed to as follows.

That they have maturely considered the petition, and have examined Captain Simeon Selleck particularly thereon, and are of opinion, that the petitioner be allowed, as a compensation for his expences, trouble and risk in taking the goods at Turtle-bay, for the use of the United Colonies, the sum of 333 dollars and one-third; and that the committee of Fairfield be directed to take into their possession, for the use of the said Colonies, all the goods taken by Captain Selleck, which are not already delivered by him, and to forward the two boxes of salt-petre, now in Captain Selleck's custody, to the powder-mill in Ulster county, to be manufactured into gun-powder, for the continental service.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on Lord Sterling's letters, after some debate thereon,

Resolved, That it be recommitted.

The Congress proceeded to the election of an adjutant for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, and the ballots being taken, and examined,

John Patterson was elected.

Resolved, That the president sign commissions to the field-officers appointed by the Provincial Congress of North Carolina, to command the two battalions, directed to be raised in that Colony by this Congress, and that such commissions bear like date with those issued to the said officers by



the said Provincial Congress of North Carolina.

Resolved, That, in case of vacancy occasioned by the death or removal of a colonel or inferior officer, the Provincial Convention of North Carolina, or, in their recess, the Provincial Council, appoint another person to fill up such vacancy, until a commission shall issue from this Congress; and that they return to this Congress a list of the names of the persons so appointed.

The delegates of New-York, having received new powers from their convention, laid the same before Congress as follows:

*"In Provincial Congress, New-York, December 21, 1775.*

"Resolved, That the present delegates of this Colony in Continental Congress be requested to make such an arrangement among themselves, as that five of them only continue at Congress, and represent this Colony at any one time; and that in case of the necessary absence of any one or two of the delegates so attending, according to such arrangement, that three or four of them be a quorum, and enabled to represent the Colony during such absence.

"A true copy from the Minutes,  
JOHN M'KESSON, *Secretary.*"

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.  
*Tuesday, January 2, 1776.*

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To James Chambers, the sum of 25.8 dollars for his expences from Cambridge.

To Jacob Alden, 50 dollars, advanced on account of expences in attending the French gentlemen.

Ordered, That the above be paid.

Resolved, That General Schuyler be directed to have Brigadier General Prescott, lately made prisoner by the continental forces in Canada, taken into custody, and him safely and securely kept until the further orders of this Congress

Resolved, That a copy of the above be sent immediately to General Schuyler; and that the general be informed by letter of the reasons which induced the Congress to give such orders.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Egbert Dumond, on account of expences in bringing the prisoners, taken at St. John's, from Kingston, in New-York government, to Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, the sum of 2326.2 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of Captains Paddock and Coffin, and after debate,

Resolved, That the prayer of said petition be not granted.

The committee on the state of New-York brought in their report, which was read.

The report of Captain Motte, with regard to the disposition of the officers taken prisoners at St. John's, was laid before Congress, and read.

The committee, to whom the report on Lord Sterling's letters was re-committed, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following resolutions,

Resolved, That the president acquaint his lordship, that the Congress has provided against the inconvenience of vexatious arrests of the men insisting in the Continental service.

Resolved, That the barracks in the Colony of New-Jersey, be prepared for the reception of such of the battalions as may not be in readiness to proceed to New-York, and that the ministerial troops or prisoners at present occupying them, be accommodated in the said Colony, in such manner as the committee of safety for said Colony shall think most prudent and convenient.

That Mr. Lowry, the commissary, be directed to supply the said battalions with stockings, and that the delegates

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legates for the Colony of New-Jersey transmit to Lord Sterling six dozen printed copies of the articles of war.

That the same firewood, camp equipage and barrack utensils be allowed to each of the New-Jersey battalions as are allowed to the battalion raised in Pennsylvania.

That the hundred stand of arms supplied by the Colony of New-York for the New-Jersey battalions, be paid for by the convention of New-Jersey; and that, in order to enable the said convention to make such payment, as well as to furnish such of the men belonging to the said battalions, as are yet unprovided, with arms, the farther sum of one thousand dollars be advanced to the said convention; and that the price of the arms be deducted out of the wages of the privates belonging to the said battalions.

That Lord Sterling be directed to seize and secure all the ammunition and warlike stores belonging to the enemy, which now are or hereafter may be imported into the Colony of New-Jersey, and keep them till he shall receive the orders of Congress respecting them: and further that he do, from time to time, give aid and protection to all the friends of America, who may be employed in importing into the said Colony ammunition, or other commodities not prohibited by the association and resolves of this Congress.

Whereas it has been represented to this Congress, that divers honest and well meaning, but ill informed, people in these Colonies have, by the art and address of ministerial agents, been deceived and drawn into erroneous opinions respecting the American cause, and the probable issue of the present contest.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the different committees, and other friends to American liberty, in the said Colonies, to treat all such persons with kindness and attention; to

consider them as the inhabitants of a country determined to be free, and to view their errors as proceeding rather from want of information than want of virtue or public spirit; to explain to them the origin, nature and extent of the present controversy; to acquaint them with the fate of the numerous petitions presented to his Majesty, as well by Assemblies as Congresses, for reconciliation and redress of grievances; and that the last from this Congress, humbly requesting the single favour of being heard, like all the others, has proved unsuccessful; to unfold to them the various arts of administration to ensnare and enslave us, and the manner in which we have been cruelly driven to defend, by arms, those very rights, liberties and estates, which we and our forefathers had so long enjoyed unmolested in the reigns of his present Majesty's predecessors. And it is recommended to all conventions and assemblies in these Colonies, liberally to distribute among the people the proceedings of this and the former Congress, the late speeches of the great patriots in both houses of parliament relative to American grievances, and such other pamphlets and papers as tend to elucidate the merits of the American cause, the Congress being fully persuaded that the more our right to the enjoyment of our ancient liberty and privileges is examined, the more just and necessary our present opposition to ministerial tyranny will appear.

And with respect to all such unworthy Americans as, regardless of their duty to their Creator, their country and their posterity, have taken part with our oppressors, and, influenced with the hope and possession of ignominious rewards, strive to recommend themselves to the bounty of administration, by misrepresenting and traducing the conduct and principles of the friends of American liberty, and opposing every measure  
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formed for its preservation and security.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the different assemblies, conventions and committees or councils of safety in the United Colonies, by the most speedy and effectual measures to frustrate the mischievous machinations, and restrain the wicked practices of these men: and it is the opinion of this Congress, that they ought to be disarmed, and the more dangerous among them either kept in safe custody, or bound with sufficient sureties to their good behaviour.

And in order that the said assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety may be enabled with greater ease and facility to carry this resolution into execution,

Resolved, That they may be authorised to call to their aid whatever continental troops, stationed in or near their respective Colonies, may be conveniently spared from their more immediate duty; and the commanding officers of such troops are hereby directed to afford the said assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety all such assistance in executing this resolution, as they may require, and which, consistent with the good of the service, may be supplied.

Resolved, That all detachments of continental troops, which may be ordered on the business in the foregoing resolution mentioned, be, while so employed, under the direction and controul of the assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety aforesaid.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all the United Colonies to aid each other (on request from their respective assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety and county committees) on every emergency, and to cultivate, cherish and increase the present happy and necessary union by a continual interchange of mutual good offices.

And whereas the execrable barbarity, with which this unhappy war has been conducted on the part of our enemies, such as burning our defenceless towns and villages, exposing their inhabitants, without regard to sex or age, to all the miseries, which loss of property, the rigour of the season and inhuman devastation can inflict, exciting domestic insurrections and murders, bribing savages to desolate our frontiers, and casting such of us, as the fortune of war has put in their power, into goals, there to languish in irons and in want, compelling the inhabitants of Boston, in violation of the treaty, to remain confined within the town, exposed to the insolence of the soldiery and other enormities, at the mention of which decency and humanity will ever blush, may justly provoke the inhabitants of these Colonies to retaliate.

Resolved, That it be recommended to them, to continue mindful that humanity ought to distinguish the brave, that cruelty should find no admission among a free people, and to take care that no page in the annals of America be stained by a recital of any action which justice or christianity may condemn, and to rest assured that whenever retaliation may be necessary, or tend to their security, this Congress will undertake the disagreeable task.

Resolved, That the assemblies, conventions, or committees or councils of safety be requested forthwith, to transmit to this Congress, copies of all the petitions, memorials and remonstrances, which have been by the respective colonies presented to the throne or either house of parliament, since the year 1762, and that they also inform the Congress, whether any or what answers were given to them.

Resolved, That Mr. Bartlett be appointed one of the committee of claims, in the room of Mr. Langdon, and Mr. S. Adams, in the room of Mr.

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Mr. Cushing, who have leave of absence.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, January 3, 1776.*

A letter from General Washington dated the 25th of December, with sundry papers enclosed, was read.

The committee of safety for Pennsylvania having recommended sundry gentlemen to be field-officers of the four battalions ordered to be raised in said Colony, the Congress proceeded to the election of colonels, and the ballots being taken and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen,

Arthur St. Clair, Esq;

John Shee, Esq;

Anthony Waine, Esq;

Robert Magaw, Esq;

The committee of claims reported that there is due to Captain Edward Motte, for expences, &c. in conducting the prisoners taken at St. John's, from Kingston, in the colony of New York, to Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, a ballance of 367.7 dollars.

To Robert Ervin, waggon-master, for carriage of cloathing and medicines to Dobb's ferry and to Cambridge, 222.6 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee on the state of New-York brought in a farther report, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows:

Whereas a majority of the inhabitants of Queen's county, in the colony of New-York, being incapable of resolving to live and die free men, and being more disposed to quit their liberties, than part with the little proportion of their property necessary to defend them, have deserted the American cause by refusing to send deputies as usual to the convention of that Colony, and avowing by a public declaration an unmanly design of remaining inactive spectators of the present contest, vainly flattering themselves perhaps, that should Providence declare for our enemies, they

may purchase their money and favour at an easy rate; and on the other hand, if the war should terminate in favour of America, that then they may enjoy, without expence of blood or treasure, all the blessings resulting from that liberty which they, in the day of trial, had abandoned, and in defence of which many of their more virtuous neighbours and countrymen had nobly died; and although the want of public spirit observable in these men rather excites pity than alarm, there being little danger to apprehend either from their prowess or example, yet it being reasonable, that those, who refuse to defend their country, should be excluded from its protection, and prevented from doing it injury.

Resolved, That all such persons in Queen's county aforesaid, as voted against sending deputies to the present convention of New-York, and named in a list of delinquents in Queen's county, published by the convention of New-York, be put out of the protection of the United Colonies, and that all trade and intercourse with them cease; that none of the inhabitants of that country be permitted to travel or abide in any part of these United Colonies, out of their said county, without a certificate from the convention or committee of safety of the colony of New-York, setting forth, that such inhabitant is a friend to the American cause, and not of the number of those, who voted against sending deputies to the said convention; and that such of the said inhabitants, as shall be found out of the said county without such certificate, be apprehended and imprisoned three months.

Resolved, That no attorney or lawyer ought to commence, prosecute or defend any action of law of any kind for any of the said inhabitants of Queen's county, who voted against sending deputies to the convention as aforesaid; and such attorney or lawyer,



lawyer, as shall contravene this resolution, are enemies to the American cause, and ought to be treated accordingly.

Resolved, That the convention or committee of safety of the colony of New-York be requested to continue publishing for a month, in all their Gazettes or news-papers, the names of all such of the inhabitants of Queen's county, as voted against sending deputies; and to give certificates, in the manner before recommended, to such other of the said inhabitants, as are friends to American liberty.

And it is recommended to all conventions, committees of safety, and others, to be diligent in executing the above resolutions.

Resolved, That Colonel Nathaniel Heard, of Woodbridge, in the colony of New-Jersey, taking with him five or six hundred minute-men, under discreet officers, do march to the western part of Queen's county, and that Colonel Waterbury, of Stanford, in the colony of Connecticut, with the like number of minute-men, march to the eastern side of said county; that they confer together, and endeavour to enter the said county on one day; that they proceed to disarm every person in the said county, who voted against sending deputies to the said convention, and cause them to deliver up their arms and ammunition on oath, and that they take and confine, in safe custody, till further orders, all such as refuse compliance.

That they apprehend and secure, till further orders, the persons named as principal men among the disaffected in the said county, in a summons for their appearance before the convention of New-York, issued the 12th of December last, viz.

Of Jamaica township.  
Capt. Benjamin Whitehead,  
Charles Arden,  
Joseph French, Esq.  
Johannes Polhemus.

#### Newtown:

Nathaniel Moor,  
John Moor, sen.  
Samuel Hallett,  
John Moor, jun.  
William Weyman,  
John Shoals,  
Jeromus Rapalje.  
Flushing.  
John Willet.

#### Hamstead.

Justice Gilbert Van Wyck,  
Daniel Kissam, Esq. of Cowneck,  
Captain Jacob Mott,  
Thomas Cornhill, of Rockaway,  
Gabriel G. Ludlow,  
Richard Hewlet,  
Captain Charles Hicks,  
Doctor Samuel Martin,  
Justice Samuel Clowes.

#### Oysterbay.

Justice Thomas Smith, of Hog-  
Island,  
Justice John Hewlet,  
Captain George Weeks,  
Doctor David Brooks,  
Justice John Townsend,

and all such other persons who shall be found in arms, or who shall oppose the carrying the above resolutions into effect, as the said Colonel Heard or Colonel Waterbury may think prudent to detain.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the said Colonel Heard and Colonel Waterbury, to execute the business entrusted to them by the foregoing resolutions, with all possible dispatch; secrecy, order and humanity.

Resolved, That the sum of 500 dollars be forthwith transmitted, with certified copies of these resolutions, to each of them the said Colonel Heard and Colonel Waterbury, and that they on their return report to this Congress a true state of their expenditure and proceedings.

A letter from the Committee of Frederic in Maryland, brought by the officer who had the charge of bringing down Connolly and his associates,

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ciates, was laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania to carry into execution the resolution of Congress for confining said Connolly and his associates in the goal of Philadelphia, and that they take their examination.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow,  
*Thursday, January 4, 1776.*

Resolved, That an additional battalion be raised in the county of Cumberland, in the colony of Pennsylvania, to consist of the same number of men and officers, and to have the same pay and allowance as the others raised in said Colony.

Resolved, That one company of each of the five battalions last ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, consist of expert rifle-men.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to see the foregoing resolutions carried into execution.

Resolved, That in all elections of officers by Congress, where more than one are elected on the same day to commands of the same rank, they shall take rank of each other according to their election, and the entry of their names in the minutes; and their commissions shall be numbered to shew their priority.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of other field-officers of the four battalions, ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, and the ballots being taken and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen,

Lieutenant-Colonels.

Lambert Cadwallader, Esq.

William Allen, jun. Esq.

Francis Johnson, Esq.

Joseph Penrose, Esq.

Majors.

Joseph Wood, Esq.

George Nagle, Esq.

Henry Bicker, Esq.

Nicholas Hausicker, Esq.

The committee of claims report that there is due,

To James Whitehead, for provisions for the prisoners taken on board the Rebecca and Mary, the sum of 64 dollars.

To the committee of New-Brunswick, per account rendered, the sum of 214.9 dollars, to be paid to William Livingston, Esq. and by him forwarded to the said committee.

To Furman and Hunt, of Trenton, for provisions, horse-hire, &c. the sum of 68.2 dollars.

To the committee of inspection and observation of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, for 187,046 flints, by them purchased agreeable to the order of Congress, the sum of 737 dollars.

To sundry persons, per list, for signing the continental bills of credit, the sum of 1165.7 dollars, and that an order be given to the treasurers for the payment of the same, agreeable to the said list.

To the committee of Frederic-town, Maryland, for expences incurred by Connolly, Cameron and Smith, during their confinement, the sum of 74 dollars, and that the same be paid to the delegates of Maryland.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid accordingly.

Resolved, That a commissary be appointed to provide the three companies ordered to Northampton in Virginia, with rations while on their march, and during their stay in that country.

That the appointment of said commissary be deferred till to-morrow.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the state of New-York; whereupon,

Resolved, That the same be postponed till to-morrow, and that the delegates of New-York be desired to request the attendance of the gentlemen sent to Congress by the convention of their Colony.

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Resolved,

Resolved, That Major Preston have liberty to chuse the place of his residence consistent with former resolutions of Congress, and that the president take his parole.

The committee appointed to consider what allowance ought to be made to officers who are prisoners, brought in their report.

Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration on Saturday next. Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, January 5, 1776.*

There being a vacancy in the first of the Pennsylvania battalions, by the promotion of Captain Allen, the Congress proceeded to the election of a person to supply said vacancy, and the ballots being taken, Benjamin Davis, oldest lieutenant in said battalion, was elected.

Resolved, That the sum of 10,000 dollars be struck, for the purpose of exchanging ragged and torn bills of the continental currency; that the bills, making this sum, be of the same denominations, printed under the inspection of the same persons, and signed and numbered by the same signers, as the last emission, and that they be lodged in the treasury, to be applied to the sole purpose aforesaid.

Resolved, That all committees, and others, who have had public money put into their hands, lay upon the table an account of the expenditure of the same.

The committee appointed to consider the letter of General Washington, dated the 18th of December, and the enclosed papers, brought in a report upon that part which relates to James Lovell, who has long been, and still is, detained a close prisoner in Boston by order of General Howe, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, and is as follows:

That it appears to your committee, that the said Mr. Lovell hath, for years past, been an able advocate

for the liberties of America and mankind; that by his letter to General Washington, which is a part of said enclosed papers, he exhibits so striking an instance of disinterested patriotism, as strongly recommends him to the particular notice of this continent.

Whereupon Resolved, That Mr. James Lovell, an inhabitant of Boston, now held a close prisoner there, by order of General Howe, has discovered under the severest trials the warmest attachment to public liberty, and an inflexible fidelity to his country; that by his late letter to General Washington, he has given the strongest evidence of disinterested public affection, in refusing to listen to terms offered for his relief, till he could be informed by his countrymen that they were compatible with their safety and honour.

Resolved, That it is deeply to be regretted that a British general can be found degenerate enough so ignominiously and cruelly to treat a citizen, who is so eminently virtuous.

Resolved, That it be an instruction to General Washington to make an offer of Governor Skene in exchange for the said Mr. Lovell and his family.

Resolved, That General Washington be desired to embrace the first opportunity which may offer, of giving some office to Mr. Lovell, equal to his abilities, and which the public service may require.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the general as speedily as possible.

Resolved, That the president write to General Washington, and desire him to inform Congress what rank the aid-de-camp of the general officers should have in the army of the United Colonies.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Adam Fischer, for expences attending his conducting Conolly and Cameron from Frederic

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in Maryland, to Philadelphia, and his charges back again for himself and the men, the sum of 156 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The Congress having conferred with the gentlemen sent by the convention of New-York, resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the state of that Colony, and the same was agreed to.

Whereupon, Resolved, That no farther fortifications be erected at Martler's-rock, on Hudson's river, and that a point of land at Puplopen's-kill, on the said river, be, without delay, effectually fortified.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the convention, or, in their recess, to the committee of safety, of New-York, to carry into execution the above resolution.

Resolved, That the delegates of New-Jersey and Connecticut be directed to take the necessary steps for carrying into execution the resolutions of Congress passed on Wednesday last, respecting the inhabitants of Queen's county.

A memorial from the inhabitants of the town of Newport was presented to Congress, and read.

Ordered, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

Resolved, That Mr. Paine be added to the committee on General Schuyler's letter.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, January 6, 1776.*

A letter from the committee of Lancaster, dated the 3d of January, was received and read.

Also a letter from an officer in Lisbon, dated the 23d of October last.

Resolved, That these letters, as well as the last received from Lancaster, and those formerly received from Lisbon, be referred to the committee of correspondence.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the memorial from the inhabitants of Newport, and the papers

accompanying it; and thereupon came to the following resolution :

Resolved, That the said memorial be referred to the consideration of the general assembly of the colony of Rhode-Island.

The committee to whom it was referred to consider how the share of prizes, allotted to the captors, ought to be divided between the officers and men, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to as follows :

Resolved, That the commander in chief have one-twentieth part of the said allotted prize-money taken by any ship or ships, armed vessel or vessels, under his orders and command.

That the captain of any single ship or armed vessel have two-twentieth parts for his share, but if more ships or armed vessels be in company when a prize is taken, then the two-twentieth parts to be divided amongst all the said captains.

That the captains of marines, lieutenants of the ships or armed vessels, and masters thereof, share together, and have three-twentieth parts divided among them, equally of all prizes taken when they are in company.

That the lieutenants of marines, surgeons, chaplains, purfers, boat-swains, gunners, carpenters, the masters mates and the secretary of the fleet share together, and have two-twentieth parts and one half of a twentieth part divided among them; equally of all prizes taken when they are in company.

That the following petty warrant and petty officers (viz. allowing for each ship six midshipmen, for each brig four midshipmen, and each sloop two midshipmen, one captain's clerk, one surgeon's mate, one steward, one sailmaker, one cooper, one armorer, two boatswain's mates, one cook, one cockswain, two serjeants of marines, for each ship, and one serjeant



for each brig and sloop) have three-twentieth parts divided among them equally, and when a prize is taken by any ship or vessel on board or in company of which the commander in chief is, then the commander in chief's cook or cockswain to be added to this allotment, and have their shares with these last mentioned.

That the remaining eight-twentieth parts, and one half of the twentieth part, be divided among the rest of the ship or ships companies, as it may happen, share and share alike.

That no officer or man have any share but such as are actually on board their several vessels when any prize or prizes are taken, excepting only such as may have been ordered on board any other prizes before taken or sent away by his or their commanding officers.

The committee on General Schuyler's letters, &c. brought in a farther report, which was read.

Resolved, That the consideration thereof be postponed to Monday next.

A letter from General Schuyler, dated the 30th of December, enclosing copies of letters from General Montgomery and General Wooster, being received, was read.

Adjourned to Monday next at ten o'clock.

*Monday, January 8, 1776.*

A letter from General Schuyler, dated the 26th of December, enclosing a copy of a letter from General Montgomery, dated December 5th, and a list of the ordnance sent to Cambridge, also a letter from Baltimore, enclosing an affidavit of Capt. Horn, being received, were read.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on General Schuyler's letters, thereupon came to the following resolutions:

Resolved, That shipwrights be immediately sent from New-York and Philadelphia to General Schuyler, or the commander in chief of the

forces at Ticonderoga, to be by him employed in constructing a number of batteaus, not exceeding one hundred, for transporting troops with their baggage from that place into Canada, whenever it may be found necessary.

That a sufficient number of suitable men be engaged for rowing said batteaus; and that a large quantity of provisions and stores be sent this winter to fort George.

That General Schuyler be desired to have the river St. Lawrence, above and below Quebec, well explored, and to determine upon proper places for opposing by armed boats, or otherwise any attempts of the enemy to penetrate that country by the river; and that he give order for constructing speedily as many such boats as he shall judge necessary.

That two shipwrights be immediately sent from Philadelphia to be employed under the direction of the committee of inspection at Albany, in constructing scouts for facilitating the passage over Hudson's river.

Resolved, That the provisions heretofore made for an hospital in the northern army when it was more numerous than it is now, is sufficient.

Resolved, That the convention of New-York be desired to send three thousand bushels of salt, besides what General Schuyler hath already ordered to be brought to Ticonderoga.

Resolved, That the governor of the general assemblies of Massachusetts Bay and New-Hampshire and the convention of New-York, be written to forthwith, by the delegates of the said colonies respectively, to furnish General Schuyler with the account of money paid to any persons in the army under his command, specifying the names of those to whom the money was paid by their order.

Resolved, That the contract made by General Schuyler to allow one twelfth part of a dollar per day for billeting money to every one of the men, who re-enlist in the northern army, until

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until they can march to the place, where provisions may be delivered to them, be made good.

Resolved, That the officers of the northern army be accountable for such public stores issued to them, as may be lost through carelessness, by their respective corps, and that the value thereof be deducted out of the pay of those who have embezzled or wasted the same.

Resolved, That this Congress does approve of the raising a battalion of Canadians and of the appointment of James Livingston, Esq; colonel thereof.

Resolved, That nine battalions, including that of Canadians under colonel Livingston, be kept up and maintained the present year for the defence of Canada.

Resolved, That the first Pennsylvania battalion under Colonel Bull, and the second New-Jersey battalion under Colonel Maxwell, be ordered to march immediately to Albany, and there put themselves under the command of General Schuyler, and that the orders given for the march of three companies of Colonel Bull's battalion to Acamac and Northampton be countermanded.

And to make up the rest of the battalions voted for the defence of Canada, that one battalion be raised in New-Hampshire, one in Connecticut and one in New-York; that two battalions be formed out of the troops now in Canada, and that General Montgomery be desired to recommend proper persons for officers in said battalions; and that one of the five battalions lately ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, be destined for Canada.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means for furnishing the battalions destined for Canada, with provisions, and for expediting their march.

The members chosen, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Deane and Mr. McKean,

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be deferred till to-morrow.

Resolved, That the convention or committee of safety of Maryland be requested to order three companies of the minute-men in the service of that Colony to march immediately from thence to the counties of Accomack and Northampton, in Virginia, instead of the forces that were directed to go thither from Pennsylvania, and to lay before Congress the accounts of their subsistence and pay, which shall be paid out of the continental treasury.

Ajourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, January 9, 1776.*

A letter from Mr. Tilgman, with sundry papers enclosed, also some dispatches from Governor Franklin, and a letter from C. Skinner, which were intercepted, were laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That a letter be written to Mr. Tilghman, informing him that the Hornet and Wasp are under orders to sail to the capes of Delaware, and that such vessels, as are ready to sail, may take the benefit of that convoy.

That the committee for fitting out armed vessels be directed to give orders to the captains of the Hornet and Wasp to take under their convoy such vessels as are ready to sail.

The committee of claims reported that there is due.

To Michael Conolly, for expences in conducting captain John Livingston and lieutenant Anstruther from Kingston to Lancaster, the sum of 250 dollars.

To Richard Butler for necessities furnished to five Indians, the sum of 49.3 dollars.

To Joseph Cowperthwait, the sum of 419.6 dollars, for expences in conducting cash to Cambridge.

Ordered, That the above be paid,

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Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into the conduct of the officers who are prisoners, the manner in which they are at present subsisted, and report thereon.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Dyer, and Mr. Floyd.

Ordered, That a certified copy of the intercepted letter of Mr. Cortland Skinner be sent to the committee of safety for New-Jersey.

That orders be sent to Lord Sterling to take with him a sufficient force, and immediately apprehend and keep in safe custody the said Cortland Skinner, of Amboy, till further orders from this Congress.

That he carry said Cortland Skinner before the committee of safety of the colony of New-Jersey for examination.

That the said committee be desired to transmit his examination to Congress.

Resolved, That the militia raised in the counties of Orange and Ulster, in the colony of New-York, by order of the Congress, for the support of the fort lately erected on Hudson's river, be discharged, except those stationed in the fort, who shall also be discharged whenever other troops arrive there to supply their places; and that it be recommended to the committee of safety of said Colony to see that this resolve be carried into execution.

Resolved, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay master general for the use of the army in the Massachusetts-Bay.

That the delegates of Pennsylvania be directed to count and forward the same with all convenient speed under a guard of an officer and two men.

The Congress resuming the consideration of the report of the committee on General Schuyler's letters, &c. thereupon came to the following resolutions,

Resolved, That Colonel V. Scha-

ick, lieutenant colonel Yates, and major Gansevoort be continued in the service of the United Colonies, and that they take the command of the battalion to be levied in the colony of New-York.

That captain Lamb be appointed commander of the artillery in the northern department with the rank of major, and that he be allowed fifty dollars per month from the first day of the present month, as a reward for his activity and spirited conduct in the last campaign.

That no postage be paid for any letters to or from private soldiers, while engaged in actual service in the defence of the United Colonies; and that such letters be franked by some person authorized for that purpose, by the commanding officer of the department.

That a letter be written to General Schuyler by the president, informing him, that it is the opinion of Congress, he should proceed to have the conduct of lieutenant Halfey enquired into by a court martial, giving him previous notice to appear in his own defence, and that such sentence should be passed on him, as such court martial shall think just, and if the said lieutenant Halfey shall decline to submit his conduct to such examination and sentence, that then all arrears of pay due to him be stopped; to enable him to give discharges to such officers as have quitted the service; to assure him that we have great confidence in his attention to the public interest, and rely that he will give to the proper officers in his department such orders, as will procure indemnification to the public for any embezzlement or waste of its stores, or monies; to empower him to remit to such of the troops raised in the colony of New-York, as may reinlist, any right we may have to stop wages for under cloaths delivered to them; to desire he will communicate to Mr. Price the sense this Congress

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have of his friendly offices to General Montgomery, in favour of the American cause, to return him our thanks for the same, and assure him immediate measures shall be taken for replacing the monies he has advanced; to notify to Colonel Easton our approbation of his late services, and that we shall retain in our minds a just sense of them.

That General Schuyler be directed to appoint Mr. John M'Pherson a major in one of the battalions ordered to be raised out of the troops in Canada.

That a conductor of artillery, a superintendent of the arms, a barrack-master and storekeeper be appointed to the northern army, and that General Schuyler be desired to recommend proper persons to Congress for those offices.

That the deputy paymaster general have liberty to appoint under him two assistant pay masters, who shall each receive 26 dollars and two-thirds per month, for their trouble and services.

That all the officers and soldiers in the northern department be paid in person by the deputy pay master general, or the assistants to be appointed by him, in consequence of the foregoing resolve.

That a communication be forthwith opened between Skenesborough and fort Ann, and that Wood-creek be cleared for that purpose.

That it be recommended to the committee of safety of the province of New-York to appoint proper persons to enquire into the propriety and practicability of obstructing or lessening the depth of water in the Narrows, or at any other place at the entrance of New-York, or of any way fortifying that pass, so as to prevent the entrance of the enemy; and also to enquire whether the depth of water in Hudson's, river, below the battery, may not easily be lessened, so as to prevent large ships passing up,

and to make an estimate of the expence, and report their proceedings in the premises immediately to Congress.

That to-morrow be assigned for the choice of two brigadier generals, viz. one for the army in Massachusetts-Bay, and the other for the army in the northern department.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, January 10, 1776.*

A letter from Rachel Stelle, with an account for the subsistence of officers was laid before Congress.

Ordered, That the same be referred to the committee on the conduct of officers, &c.

Resolved, That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Northern department be directed to pay the Reverend Mr. Wheelock five hundred dollars, agreeable to a resolution of Congress passed the 12th day of July last.

The committee appointed to devise ways & means for facilitating the march of the battalions destined for Canada, brought in their report, which was read, and the Congress therewith concurring.

Resolved, That three first lieutenants, eight second lieutenants, one ensign and a quarter-master be appointed to supply the vacancies in Colonel Bull's battalion.

That for the said battalion there be provided 688 caps, 688 pair of mittens, 688 pair of stockings, 688 pair of leggings, 688 pair of shoes, 688 haversacks, 688 slings for firelocks 1200 shirts, 688 waistcoats, 500 pair of breeches, 300 blankets, 64 pitching axes and nine baggage waggons.

That for colonel Maxwell's battalion there be provided 688 haversacks, 688 cartouch boxes, and cross belts, 688 tomahawks, 64 pitching axes and 9 baggage waggons.

That both battalions be paid up to the first day of February next.

That the battalions march by companies,



panies, and that the companies follow each other at the distance of one day's march; that the quarter-masters and commissaries precede their respective battalions a few days, in order to provide lodgings and provisions on the road.

That the colonels be allowed 6 rations

Lieutenant colonels,	5 ditto
Majors,	4 ditto
Captains,	3 ditto
Subaltern and staff officers, each	2 ditto

or money in lieu thereof.

That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania to supply Colonel Bull's battalion with the foregoing articles, or such of them as they have not already provided them with, agreeable to former resolutions of Congress; and that all the articles furnished the men more than those allowed in lieu of bounty be deducted out of their pay.

That Thomas Lowry be directed to provide the articles for Colonel Maxwell's battalion, and that all the articles furnished the men more than those allowed in lieu of bounty be deducted out of their pay.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Thomas Lowry, for the sum of 35,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions raised in New-Jersey, he to be accountable for the same.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the election of two brigadier generals, and the ballots being taken and examined, Joseph Fry, Esq; was elected for the army in the Massachusetts-Bay, Benedict Arnold, Esq; for the army in the Northern department.

The committee of safety for Pennsylvania, having recommended a number of persons for field-officers to the sixth battalion ordered to be raised in said Colony, the Congress proceeded to the election, and the ballots being taken and examined,

William Irwin, Esq; was elected colonel,

Thomas Hartley, Esq; lieutenant colonel,

James Dunlap, Esq; major.

Resolved, That another battalion be raised in New-Jersey, on the same terms as the other two raised in the said Colony.

Resolved, That the pay of the troops serving in and destined for Canada be the same as that of the army at Cambridge; and that this pay commence to the Pennsylvania and New-Jersey battalions from the time they set out on their march to Canada.

The Congress considering the great distance from Colonel Heard to Col. Waterbury, the difficulty of co operating with each other in their expedition into Queen's county, thereupon.

Resolved, That Lord Stirling be desired to furnish Colonel Heard with three companies under his command, who are to join Colonel Heard with the minute-men by him raised, and proceed as soon as may be on the expedition into Queen's county, for which Colonel Heard and Colonel Waterbury were appointed, and that Colonel Heard be desired to send immediately an express to Colonel Waterbury with a copy of this resolution, and inform him that his service will not be required on this occasion.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of these Colonies, and report as soon as possible what number of forces in their opinion will be necessary for the defence of the same.

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hooper, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Wilson.

Resolved, That the Colony of North Carolina be supplied with one ton of powder by the secret committee.

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The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To the committee of the upper district of Frederick county, Maryland, the sum of 800.1 dollars, to be paid to Daniel Hester; of which 571 dollars to be charged to Capt. Cressap's company, 77 dollars and one third to Captain Price's company, and the remainder to the continent.

To Furman and Hunt, for provisions, &c. furnished to prisoners, the sum of 178.2 dollars.

To William Shad, for attendance as messenger to the 4th of December, 1775, the sum of 52 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, January 11, 1776.*

Resolved, That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New York, to endeavour to obtain a release of lieutenant —

Tiley, of Brigadier Wooster's regiment, now confined on board the *Asia* man of war, by exchanging for him an officer of the same rank of the British troops in our custody.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare instructions to the officers in the recruiting service.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Dyer, and Mr. Harrison.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the bills of credit, emitted by this Congress, thereupon came to the following resolution,

Whereas it appears to this Congress that several evil disposed persons, in order to obstruct and defeat the efforts of the United Colonies, in defence of their just rights, have attempted to depreciate the bills of credit emitted by the authority of this Congress.

Resolved, therefore, That if any person shall hereafter be so lost to all

virtue and regard for his country, as to refuse to receive the said bills in payment, or obstruct or discourage the currency or circulation thereof, and shall be duly convicted by the committee of the city, county or district, or, in case of appeal from their decision, by the assembly, convention, council or committee of safety of the Colony where he shall reside, such person shall be deemed, published and treated as an enemy of his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies.

Ordered, That the foregoing resolve be immediately published.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, for the sum of 6000 dollars, for the use of the first Pennsylvania battalion, the said committee to be accountable for the same.

A representation of the field-officers of the Pennsylvania battalions, setting forth the inconveniences that will arise from the battalions consisting of seven battalion-companies, was presented to Congress, and read.

Ordered, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to morrow.

*Friday, January 12, 1776.*

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Henry Dewson, for provisions to Captain Ross's company, the sum of 27.5 dollars.

From Turbett Francis, Esq; one of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Northern department a balance in his hands amounting to 194 dollars.

To Volkert P. Douw, another of the commissioners of said department, expences attending the treaty at Albany, a balance amounting to 2171.9 dollars, and that there will then remain in his hands two mat-

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traffes, about fifteen gallons of wine, some spirits, and some boards, belonging to the Colonies.

Ordered, That the sums due to Henry Dewson, and Volkert P. Douw, Esq; be paid: the latter through the hands of James Duane, Esq;

The committee appointed to enquire into the conduct of the officers, who are prisoners, and the manner in which they are, at present, subsisted, brought in their report, which was agreed to, as follows,

Resolved, That the conduct of the officers at Trenton, though in other respects unexceptionable, is, as to their manner of living, exceedingly extravagant, they being boarded at taverns, and the innkeepers supplying them in a luxurious manner, on the credit of the continent.

That the Congress will, for the future, allow two dollars per week for the board and lodgings of officers, who are prisoners (for which sum they may have decent lodgings) to be repaid by the officers before they are released from their captivity.

That the accounts of the several innkeepers against the officers be paid by the continent, which are also to be repaid by the said officers before their discharge.

That no tavern-keeper supply the said officers for the future on the credit of the continent.

That the officers now at Trenton be directed to remove to some other place at a proper distance from the public post-road.

That the officers at Trenton have liberty to chuse the places of their residence, the choice being made consistent with former resolutions of Congress.

That a copy of the above resolutions, together with a copy of the resolution granting officers liberty to sell bills for their subsistence, be transmitted to the several committees, where officers who are prisoners reside;

and that the said committees be directed to apply to the said officers for their bills to discharge the debts already incurred, and also to inform them, it is expected they will from time to time draw for their future subsistence.

Ordered, That Rachel Stille's account for subsistence of officers to the 4th of January, 1776, amounting to 423.6 dollars, be paid.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into further consideration the trade of the United Colonies.

A memorial from the field-officers of the first Pennsylvania battalion was presented to Congress.

Ordered, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, January 13, 1776.*

A letter from General Washington, dated January the 4th, 1776; also a letter from the committee of safety of New-York, dated January the 3d, being received, were read.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the letter from the committee of safety of New-York, and to confer with Mr. Romans, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. W. Livingston.

The secret committee having made report respecting the purchase of the salt-petre lately imported,

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Resolved, That the said committee be directed to apply to the said officers for their bills to discharge the debts already incurred, and also to inform them, it is expected they will from time to time draw for their future subsistence.

Ordered, That Rachel Stille's account for subsistence of officers to the 4th of January, 1776, amounting to 423.6 dollars, be paid.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into further consideration the trade of the United Colonies.

A memorial from the field-officers of the first Pennsylvania battalion was presented to Congress.

Ordered, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, January 13, 1776.*

A letter from General Washington, dated January the 4th, 1776; also a letter from the committee of safety of New-York, dated January the 3d, being received, were read.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the letter from the committee of safety of New-York, and to confer with Mr. Romans, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. W. Livingston.

The secret committee having made report respecting the purchase of the salt-petre lately imported,

Resolved, That the said committee be directed to purchase the salt-petre on the best terms they can, and have it manufactured into gunpowder as soon as possible.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to supply Colonel Heard with 200 pounds of gunpowder, to enable him to carry into execution the orders of Congress.

Resolved, That John Morgan be promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in one of the companies of Colonel Bull's battalion.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, January 15, 1776.*

A paragraph of a letter from Peter Timothy, secretary to the Provincial Convention and committee of safety of South Carolina, dated January 5th, to C. Godson, Esq; was read, informing that the said convention have resolved to continue the delegates, and have constituted any two of them to be a quorum to represent said Colony.

A letter from General Washington, dated the 31st of December, with sundry papers enclosed, among which a draught of Captain Matthews on the treasury of Virginia, for £100 lawful money advanced him by the general; also two letters from Lord Stirling, dated January 8th and 11th, and a letter from Governor Trumbull, with three papers enclosed, being received, were read.

Resolved, That the letter from General Washington be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wilson.

That the letters from Lord Stirling be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. McKean, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Alexander.

That the letters from Governor Trumbull, with the enclosed papers, be referred to the committee appointed to confer with Mr. Romans,

A letter from the committee of safety of New-York, dated January 11th, 1776, was read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the committee on the state of the Colonies.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to make an estimate of the number of cannon, that may be wanted for the defence of the United Colonies, and to devise ways and means for procuring them, and that it be an instruction to said committee to enquire what sized cannon can be cast in these Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. Wisner, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Allen and Mr. Paine.

Resolved, That no bought indented servants be employed on board the fleet, or in the army of the United Colonies, without the consent of their masters.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Jacob Hiltzheimer, for expreeses, the sum of 356.1 dollars.

To Jonathan Trumbull, jun. for his expreeses to Philadelphia, and returning to New-York with money, the sum of 99.7 dollars.

To Thomas Apty, for boarding several prisoners, 109.6 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania to enquire into the characters of the recruits or privates taken on board the Rebecca and Frances transport, and to dismiss such of them as they judge may with safety to the Colonies, be discharged.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the United Colonies; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into their farther consideration the matter to them referred, but that not having



come to a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, on Friday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the trade of the United Colonies.

Resolved, That Capt. Matthew's draft on the treasury of Virginia be delivered to the delegates of that Colony; and that they be desired to receive the money, and pay the same to the continental treasurers.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, January 16, 1776.*

The Colony of Connecticut having appointed new delegates, the same attending, produced the credentials of their appointment, which were read, as follows:

*" At a general assembly of the governor and company of the English Colony of Connecticut, in New England, in America, holden at New-Haven, in said Colony, on the second Thursday of October, Anno Domini 1775.*

*" Resolved, by this assembly, That Roger Sherman, Oliver Wolcott, Samuel Huntington, Titus Hosmer, and William Williams, Esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed delegates to represent this Colony at the General Congress of the United Colonies in America for the year ensuing, and until new be chosen, that is to say, the said Roger Sherman, Oliver Wolcott, and Samuel Huntington, Esqrs. do attend said Congress, and on the failure of either of the said gentlemen, by sickness, or otherwise, then the said Titus Hosmer, or William Williams, Esqrs. are to supply the place or places of any or either of the said three gentlemen first named, in such manner, that three of said delegates, and three only, do attend said Congress at any one time; and the said three delegates, or any or either of them, who shall be present in said Congress,*

*are hereby fully authorized and empowered to represent this Colony in said Congress, to consult, advise and resolve upon measures necessary to be taken and pursued for the defence, security and preservation of the rights and liberties of the said United Colonies, and for their common safety; and of such their proceedings and resolves they do transmit authentic copies, from time to time, to the general assembly of this Colony. That the said delegates now appointed do repair to, and take their seats in, said Congress by the first day of January next, in case said Congress shall be then sitting, or as soon after as said Congress shall be convened; and that the said gentlemen who are now attending said Congress in behalf of this Colony, do continue in their said office until the gentlemen now chosen, and directed to attend in manner aforesaid, shall arrive at said Congress.*

*" A true copy of record, examined by GEORGE WILLYS, Secretary."*

A letter from Mr. Lewis, dated January 8th, was read, recommending a stranger to the notice of Congress.

Ordered, That the same be referred to the committee on the qualifications of persons applying for offices.

Resolved, That a member, in the room of Mr. Dyer, be added to the committee appointed to draw up instructions to the officers employed in the recruiting service.

Resolved, That the several petitions of gentlemen, praying to be appointed officers in the Pennsylvania battalions, be referred to the committee on qualifications.

Application being made in behalf of Mr. Jugé and the owner of a vessel lately arrived in Delaware, for leave to export provisions to the amount of the cargoes by them imported,

Resolved, That this be referred to the secret committee.

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Resolved, That two members be added to the secret committee.

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes and Mr. Alexander.

The committee on the state of the Colonies brought in a report, which being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That another battalion be raised in the colony of North Carolina, in order to defeat any attempt which may be made in opposition to the measures recommended by the Continental Congress.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be referred till to-morrow.

The committee having desired leave to sit again, the same was granted.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for taking into consideration, in a committee of the whole, the propriety of opening the ports after the first of March next.

The delegates of South-Carolina having informed the Congress, that their Colony, being in want of seamen, had given orders to offer high wages to such as would engage in their service, desired the advice and opinion of Congress on this matter.

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Huntington, Mr. Paine, Mr. Morris and Mr. Floyd.

Resolved, That the naval committee be empowered to purchase a small vessel for a tender.

The committee appointed to procure powder from Providence, brought in a report, with an account of a cargo provided for that purpose by Willing and Morris, amounting to 3233.2 dollars; whereupon,

Resolved, That the said committee be authorised to give such orders to the captain of the vessel, as they may think proper.

That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Willing and Morris, for the said sum of 3233.2 dollars,

The committee on General Washington's letters brought in a report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the paymaster-general of the army at Cambridge be empowered to draw bills upon the president of the Congress, or, in their recess, upon the committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, for any sums of money which may be deposited in his hands not exceeding, in any one month, the monthly expence of the army, and that such bills countersigned by the general or commander in chief of the said army be accepted and paid.

That the free negroes who have served faithfully in the army at Cambridge may be re-enlisted therein, but no other.

That, if General Washington thinks proper, Colonel R. Ridley be continued chief engineer in the army at Cambridge.

That the pay of the assistant engineers in the army at Cambridge be 26 dollars and two thirds per month.

The committee having desired leave to sit again, the same was granted.

Resolved, That four new members be added to the committee on the qualifications, &c. in the room of those absent.

The members chosen, Mr. Wolcott, for Connecticut, in the room of Mr. Dyer. Mr. Duane, for New-York, in the room of Mr. Jay. Mr. M'Kean, for the Lower Counties on Delaware, in the room of Mr. Rodney; and Mr. Rogers, for Maryland.

Resolved, That Thursday next be assigned for taking into consideration the report of the committee on Indian affairs.

Resolved, That a list of the committees who have not reported be prepared and laid on the table.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Wed.

*Wednesday, January 17, 1776.*

A petition from Doctor Benjamin Church was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Paca and Mr. Hooper.

A petition from Ibbetson Hamar, a prisoner at Trenton, was presented to Congress and read, praying for leave to reside at Mr. Stainforth's, near Prince-Town.

Resolved, That the same be granted.

A memorial from the captains and subalterns of the first Pennsylvania battalion was presented and read, complaining of the conduct of their colonel.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the committee of qualifications, and that they be directed to hear the parties, and report to Congress.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports after the first of March next, and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had come to a resolution, which he read in his place, and delivered in.

The report being again read,  
Ordered, To lie on the table.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, to consider under what regulations and restrictions the trade of the United Colonies ought to be carried on after the first of March next.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Morris, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Adams and Mr. Sherman.

Resolved, That a member be added to the committee appointed to confer with Mr. Romans.

The member chosen, Mr. Wolcott.

The committee appointed to pre-

pare instructions for the officers in the recruiting service brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the colonels of the several battalions ordered to be raised, do immediately order their officers, on recruiting service, to such parts where they are best known, and have the greatest probability of success.

That the recruiting officers ought to be careful to enlist none but healthy, sound and able-bodied men, and not under sixteen years of age.

That the colonels of the several battalions aforesaid, appoint some place or places of rendezvous, to which the recruits may be sent, and where the battalions may be quartered.

That the greatest attention ought to be paid to the behaviour of the troops in quarters, that they may give no reasonable cause of complaint.

That the quarters of the troops be duly discharged once every week.

That an allowance of one dollar and a third of a dollar per man be made to the recruiting officers, in lieu of their expences in recruiting, exclusive of the subsistence-money allowed them. And that in case any man be enlisted contrary to the foregoing regulations, the pay they may have received, and the subsistence-money that may be paid for them, shall be stopped from the pay of such recruiting officers.

That the colonels of the several battalions to be raised in Pennsylvania, be supplied with money for the recruiting service by the committee of safety of said Colony, and disburse the same to the several recruiting officers; the colonels and other officers to be accountable for what they shall receive, and all arrears, they may fall into, to be stopped from their pay.

Resolved, That the sum of one dollar

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dollar and one third of a dollar per man be allowed to the officers of the first Pennsylvania battalion for each man by them enlisted, who shall have passed muster.

Resolved, That the treasurers be empowered to advance to Mr. Regonville a sum not exceeding 400 dollars, taking his draught or bill on his agent in Canada for the same.

A letter from General Schuyler, dated January the 13th, enclosing copies of letters from Gen. Wooster, Colonel Arnold, and others, were laid before Congress, and read, containing an account of an unsuccessful attempt made to gain possession of Quebec by storm, on the 31st of December, and of the death of General Montgomery.

The committee to whom the matter of South-Carolina, respecting the engaging of seamen, was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, January 18, 1776.*

The committee to whom the petition of Doctor Benjamin Church was referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That Governor Trumbull be desired to give order for the removal of Doctor Church to some more comfortable place of confinement, than that where he now is, if such can be found in that Colony; and that for the advancement of his health, the said Doctor Church be permitted to ride out at proper seasons under a trusty guard, who will be careful to prevent his carrying on any correspondence, or doing any act prejudicial to the safety and welfare of the United Colonies.

A letter from the committee of Frederick-town, Maryland, enclosing sundry intercepted letters, found upon Doctor Smith, one of Conolly's associates, being brought by the guard who had the charge of bringing

down said Smith, was laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the committee of safety for the Colony of Pennsylvania, to take the examination of said Doctor Smith, and then commit him to safe and close confinement.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the letter from General Schuyler, of the 13th of January, with the enclosures, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, and Mr. S. Adams.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, January 19, 1776.*

Resolved, That five members be elected for the committee of claims in the room of those who are absent,

The members chosen, Mr. Wolcott, for Connecticut, in the room of Mr. Deane. Mr. Floyd, for New-York, in the room of Mr. Lewis. Mr. M'Kean, for the Lower Counties on Delaware, in the room of Mr. Rodney. Mr. Rogers, for Maryland, in the room of Mr. Johnson. Mr. E. Rutledge, for South-Carolina, in the room of Mr. Gadsden.

The committee to whom the letters from Lancaster were referred, brought in an answer, which was read, and approved.

Ordered, That the same be transcribed and forwarded.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the matter of South-Carolina, respecting seamen; whereupon

Resolved, That it be recommended to Captain Cochran, who is arrived here for the purpose of recruiting seamen, to pursue the following plan in the enlisting service, in which he is employed by the Colony of South-Carolina:

That he offers to each able bodied seaman the wages of eight dollars per month,



month, and that he pay to them nine dollars bounty, and, upon their arrival in South-Carolina, the further bounty of five dollars.

That Captain Cochran repair immediately to the camp at Cambridge, and take the advice and direction of General Washington on this affair, and proceed to enlist his seamen in such parts of the country, as will be the least prejudicial to the continental service.

That the president write to General Washington, acquainting him with the situation of South-Carolina, the necessity that Colony is in for seamen, and desiring that he will please to forward this service.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To the committee of Berks county, for provisions, ammunition, &c. furnished the rifle-companies, £11 14 10, and for necessities furnished the prisoners from St. John's, the sum of £8 13 11, amounting in the whole to £20 8 9, equal to 54.5 dollars, to be paid to Doctor Jonathan Potts.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the delegates of South-Carolina, for the sum of 10,000 dollars, which was appropriated for Indian affairs in the Southern department.

The council of safety for the three lower counties on Delaware having recommended sundry gentlemen for field-officers of the battalion ordered to be raised in that Colony, the Congress proceeded to an election, and the ballots being taken,

John Haslet, Esq; was elected colonel, and Gunning Bedford, Esq; lieutenant-colonel.

The Congress resuming the consideration of the report of the committee on the state of the Colonies,

Resolved, That four battalions be raised in the colony of New-York for the defence of that Colony, upon

the same pay with those directed to be raised in the colony of Pennsylvania; and that they be stationed as the commanding officer of the New-York department shall think best, to garrison the several forts in that Colony, from Crown Point to the southward, and to prevent depredations upon Long-Island, and promote the safety of the whole.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be transmitted to the council of safety of New-York; and that they be requested, with all possible expedition to transmit to Congress the names of a number of gentlemen, at least two for each command, out of whom the Congress may elect field-officers for said battalions.

The committee on qualifications brought in a report, which was agreed to, as follows,

That Roger Stayner and George Jenkins be appointed first lieutenants in the first Pennsylvania battalion.

That the two eldest ensigns be promoted to second lieutenants in said battalion, in the room of the above.

That Robert Alson be appointed an ensign in said battalion.

That Jacob Shallus be appointed quarter-master of said battalion.

The committee appointed to hear the complaints of the officers, and Colonel Bull's defence, brought in their report, which, after debate, was referred till to-morrow.

The committee to whom General Schuyler's letter of the 13th of January, with the papers and letters enclosed, was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon

Resolved, That the American army in Canada be reinforced with all possible dispatch, as well for the security and relief of our friends there, as for better securing the rights and liberties not only of that Colony, but the other United Colonies.

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committee of safety of New-Jersey, and an application made to that of Pennsylvania, immediately to quicken the officers employed in levying the forces directed to be raised in those Colonies, and marched to Canada, and do all in their power to forward the service. And that the committee of inspection of the city and liberties of Philadelphia be requested forthwith to use their utmost endeavours to aid Mr. J. Mease in procuring of the householders therein, such blankets as may be spared from their respective families, for the use of the battalion destined for this important expedition at so severe a season, for which the owners shall be allowed the value of such blankets according to the estimation of the said committee of inspection. And that Colonel Bull and Colonel Maxwell do without delay march such of the companies of their battalions as are now ready, to General Schuyler.

That General Washington be requested to detach from the camp at Cambridge one battalion, if the service there will permit him to spare one, with orders to march with the greatest expedition possible to Canada.

That for the more speedy raising the battalions, ordered on the 8th of January to be raised in the colonies of New-Hampshire, Connecticut, New-York and Pennsylvania, for the defence of Canada, it be recommended to the general assemblies, conventions, or councils or committees of safety of those colonies respectively, to exert their utmost endeavours in raising the said battalions, upon the same pay and subsistence as the army at Cambridge, and to furnish them with provisions, ammunition, and other necessaries, for expediting their march to Canada. And for further encouraging the men more cheerfully to enter into the service of their country, to give a bounty of six dollars and two thirds to every able bodied effective man, properly

cloathed for the service, and having a good firelock, with a bayonet, and other accoutrements, and four dollars to every foldier not having the like arms and accoutrements; the arms to be supplied by the Colony, and the cost to be deducted out of the foldiers pay; and also to provide a blanket and haversack for every enlisted foldier, and moreover to advance one month's pay to every officer and foldier before their march, that they may be able to purchase necessary cloathing.

That the first two companies, which shall be complete of every battalion, do march to that country, so soon as they shall be ready, and be followed in the same numbers, with like expedition, by the rest of the corps. And that it be recommended to the general assemblies, conventions and councils or committees of safety of the Colonies in which the battalions are directed to be raised, that they respectively attend to this business.

The committee desired leave to sit again, which was granted,

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, January 20, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, for the sum of 15,000 dollars, for the use of the five battalions to be raised in said Colony; the said committee to be accountable.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Captain Henry Shylock, for his expences in bringing Doctor John Smith from Hagar's-Town, and for his expences in returning home, the sum of 89.3 dollars.

To John Nelson, for his expences in bringing the said Doctor John Smith from the Little Meadows to Hagar's-Town, and for his trouble in attending him to this city, with allowance of expences in returning home, the sum of 75 dollars.

To Francis Johnson, Esq; for sundry

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pences incurred by guards for powder, waggons, &c. the sum of 38 dollars.

To Thomas Dewees, for supporting several prisoners, the sum of 43.2 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

A memorial from Colonel Bull was presented to Congress, and read, praying for leave, on account of ill treatment he had received from many officers of his corps, to resign his commission.

The committee on General Schuyler's letter, brought in their farther report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following resolutions.

Resolved, That General Washington be desired to dispatch a general officer, if he can be spared from the service at Cambridge, to command the army in Canada.

That it being necessary to procure a large quantity of specie for the operations in Canada, which cannot be successfully carried on without that article, it be recommended to the general assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety upon the continent, to employ proper persons within their respective colonies to collect all the gold and silver coin they can, and inform Congress of the sum collected.

That it will not be expedient at present to send a committee of Congress to Canada.

That the committee of secrecy be desired to dispatch one ton of gun-powder with the first companies that shall march from Pennsylvania to Canada; and that Governor Trumbull be desired to send the like quantity of gun-powder with the first detachment of forces directed to march thither from Connecticut.

That the losses sustained by Captain Hazen be ascertained by commissioners to be appointed by the

commanding officer in Canada, and that the commissioners report their proceedings, with the examination of the witnesses, and their opinion thereupon, to Congress.

That the general assemblies, conventions or councils or committees of safety of the Colonies, in which forces are directed to be raised for the service of Canada, be desired to raise for the same service, one company of matrosses, consisting of forty privates, in each Colony, under proper officers, and where a company cannot be completed, to raise as many as they can, under subaltern officers, in proportion to their numbers.

That General Wooster be desired to take possession of the medicine-chest mentioned by Colonel Campbell, to be claimed by Doctor Beaumont, and if it appear to him to be private property, to pay the value thereof to the owner.

That the general assemblies, conventions, or councils or committees of safety be desired to take the most effectual measures for recovering the arms, accoutrements, batteaus, tools, and other stores of the continent, said to have been carried off by some of the soldiers, who have returned from Canada.

That 12,500 dollars be advanced to each of the general assemblies or councils or committees of safety of the Colonies in which forces are directed to be raised for the service of Canada, for the purpose of recruiting their respective regiments.

That from the necessity of the case, and to prevent delays, blank commissions be issued by the president for the field-officers, captains and subalterns, who are to command the battalions ordered to be raised for Canada, in New-Hampshire and Connecticut, to be filled up with the names of such gentlemen, as shall be judged most proper by the convention or committee of safety of New-

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Hampshire, and by the governor and council of Connecticut.

That the foregoing resolution be not drawn into a precedent.

That exclusive of Colonel Livingston and his regiment already determined on, there be one thousand Canadians more raised, for one year, or during the present disputes, at six dollars and two-thirds bounty and the usual pay, which number shall compose four battalions, and form one regiment, five companies of fifty men to each battalion, one captain, one lieutenant, and one ensign to each company, and four majors, one lieutenant colonel and one colonel to the whole regiment.

That the committee of safety of Philadelphia be desired to provide and dispatch fives and drums to Canada, for the two regiments directed to be raised in that Colony.

Resolved, That orders be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the delegates of New-Hampshire, for the above sum of 12,500 dollars, and in favour of the delegates of Connecticut, for the like sum of 12,500 dollars, and in favour of the delegates of New-York, for the like sum of 12,500 dollars, for the use of the battalions to be raised for Canada, and that the said delegates be desired to forward the said sums to their respective Colonies with all expedition; the several Colonies to be accountable for the same.

Resolved, That the president be directed to send an express to General Schuyler, with a letter, informing him of the measures the Congress have taken for the defence of Canada, and desiring him to forward the same to General Wooster.

That he likewise dispatch an express, with the like information, to General Washington, to the Governor of Connecticut, and the convention or council of safety of New-Jersey, New-York, and New Hampshire.

The committee on qualifications, having recommended the following persons for ensigns in the first Pennsylvania battalion, viz. Nicholas Scull, Joseph Greenway, John Irwine, John Brue, Richard Rice, Major Walbroen, the same were agreed to, and commissions ordered to be given them accordingly.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to supply the delegates of New-Jersey with 300 pounds of powder, for the use of Colonel Maxwell's battalion.

Ordered, That Timothy Matlack deliver to the delegates of New-Jersey, or their order, a quantity of flints, for the use of said battalion, and ball or lead proportioned to 300 pounds of powder.

That the treasurers with all expedition send a trusty person with £1000 in continental bills to Samuel Patterson, Esq; and receive in exchange for the same so much in silver and gold.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, January 22, 1776.*

Sundry letters, viz. one from General Washington, of the 11th of January, two from Lord Stirling, of the 18th and 19th of January, one from General Schuyler, of the 10th of January, and one from the committee of Trenton, of the 19th of January, also a petition from John Sparling, being received, were read.

Resolved, That the above letters be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Hooper and Mr. Adams.

Resolved, That the president be empowered to employ a private secretary, to be paid by the United Colonies.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Benedict Arnold, on account of his expences in his expedition against Crown-point and Ticonderoga, a balance amounting to 819

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dollars, to be paid to Silas Deane, Esq;

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That the committee of Trenton, be desired to send General Prescott and Captain Chace under a guard to Philadelphia.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to consider a proper method of paying a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of General Montgomery.

The members chosen, Mr. Livingston, Doctor Franklin, and Mr. Hooper.

The Congress proceeded to the election of field-officers for the second Canadian regiment, and ——— Hazen, Esq; was elected colonel,

Edward Antil, Esq; lieutenant colonel.

Resolved, That the United Colonies will indemnify Colonel Hazen for any loss of half-pay he may sustain in consequence of his entering into their service.

Resolved, That the appointment of majors, captains, and subaltern and staff-officers in the second Canadian regiment, be left to the commander in chief in Canada, with the advice of the general officers in that country, and of Colonel Hazen, Lieutenant Colonel Antil, and Mr. Price.

The Congress resumed the consideration of Colonel Bull's application, for leave to resign his commission.

Resolved, That leave be granted him.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a colonel for the first Pennsylvania battalion, in the room of Colonel Bull, and John Philip de Haas was elected.

A memorial from Captain Duncan Campbell, a prisoner, being presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be empowered to take his parole, and that he have leave to reside at Lancaster.

Application being made in behalf of Lieutenant M'Donnald, for leave to come to Philadelphia, and remain there five days, in order to transact some necessary business.

Resolved, That leave be granted. Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, January 23, 1776.*

A letter from General Schuyler, of the 14th of January, enclosing a letter from General Arnold, was read.

Ordered, That the secretary draw up a narrative of the repulse our troops met with, and of the loss sustained in their unsuccessful attempt on Quebec, and lay the same before Congress.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a letter to the inhabitants of Canada.

The members chosen, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Wilson.

Resolved, That the articles of war be translated into French, and 500 copies sent to Canada.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Adam Ekel, for waggonage from Lancaster to Cambridge with Captain Smith's company of riflemen, a balance of 43.3 dollars.

To Deborah Siddens, for provisions for Captain Ross's company, the sum of 15.3 dollars.

To John Jervis, for ferriage, horse-hire, &c. the sum of 12 dollars.

To the committee of Romboiet Precinct, in Duches county, in the colony of New-York, the sum of 129.4 dollars.

To Robert Erwin, for waggonage, the sum of 67 dollars.

To Timothy Matlack, for cash, by him paid to Archibald Dick, the expences of a guard over a powder waggon, 16.4 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on Indian affairs, which, after debate, was recommitted, Re-

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Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the committee of safety of Three Lower Counties on Delaware, for the sum of 3000 dollars, for the use of the battalion ordered to be raised in that Colony; the said committee to be accountable for the expenditure.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, January 24, 1776.*

A letter from the committee of Trenton, of January the 23d, was read.

The secretary laid before Congress an account of the repulse our troops met with in their attempt on Quebec, the 31st of December, which was read.

Ordered, That the same be published.

Resolved, That such of the soldiers, ordered to Canada, as are married, and are desirous of having part of their pay given to their wives, be indulged; and that the captains or paymaster be directed, in future payments of such soldiers, to deduct such part of their monthly pay.

Resolved, That the president be directed to inform General Schuyler, that the return of cannon mentioned in his letter of December 21st, is mislaid, and therefore he is desired to make a return as soon as possible of all the cannon and artillery at Crown-point and Ticonderoga, exclusive of those taken by Colonel Knox for General Washington.

Resolved, That Mr Bankson be appointed a first lieutenant, in the room of Mr. Morgan, who is in the country.

Information being given to Congress, that some soldiers in the first Pennsylvania battalion now under orders to march to Canada, are not supplied with arms:

Resolved, That the commanding officer of said battalion be directed to make a return of the arms of said battalion, and how many are want-

ing, to the president of the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia.

That the said committee be desired to use their utmost influence to provide good arms for such of said battalion as may want them.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed, to consider the propriety of establishing a war-office, and the powers with which the said office should be vested.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Franklin, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Ward, Mr. S. Adams and Mr. Morris.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the inhabitants of Canada reported a draft, which being read, and considered, was approved.

Ordered, That it be immediately translated and printed.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Carpenter Wharton for the sum of 1000 dollars, to enable him to supply the first Pennsylvania battalion with provisions on their march to Albany; he to be accountable.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, to prepare an address to the inhabitants of the United Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickson, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Duane and Mr. Alexander.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Colonel Hazen, for the sum of 533 dollars and one-third; he to be accountable.

That a like order be drawn in favour of Colonel Antil, for the sum of 200 dollars.

That the sum of 2666 dollars and two thirds in specie be advanced to Colonel Hazen, for the use of the battalion to be by him raised in Canada; he to be accountable.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, January 25, 1776.*

Sundry letters, viz. one from the com-

committee of Trenton, dated the 23d of January, one from Ibetson Hamar, and from Doctor Richard Huddleston, of the same date, and one from the committee of Lancaster, of the 22d of January, were read, and referred to the committee of correspondence.

A letter from Colonel Maxwell, respecting the unprepared state of his battalion, being read,

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the committee of Trenton, for the sum of 4000 dollars, to purchase arms for Colonel Maxwell's battalion; the said committee to be accountable.

Resolved, That the president write to the said committee, and to Mr. Lowry, stimulating them to furnish Colonel's Maxwell's battalion with the articles necessary for their march; and that the president write to Colonel Maxwell, and direct him to send forward to Albany the first company that can be got ready, and that he cause the other companies to march with like expedition, one at a time, as fast as they can be got ready.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to take the examination of Brigadier-General Prescott and Captain Chace, who are arrived in Philadelphia, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Adams, Mr. Ward and Mr. Sherman.

The committee appointed to consider of a proper method of paying a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of General Montgomery, brought in their report, which was agreed to as follows:

It being not only a tribute of gratitude justly due to the memory of those, who have peculiarly distinguished themselves in the glorious cause of liberty, to perpetuate their names, by the most durable monuments erected to their honour, but also greatly conducive to inspire pos-

terity with an emulation of their illustrious actions:

Resolved, That, to express the veneration of the United Colonies for their late general, Richard Montgomery, and the deep sense they entertain of the many signal and important services of that gallant officer, who, after a series of successes, amidst the most discouraging difficulties, fell at length in a gallant attack upon Quebec, the capital of Canada, and for transmitting to future ages, as examples truly worthy of imitation, his patriotism, conduct, boldness of enterprise, insuperable perseverance, and contempt of danger and death, a monument be procured from Paris, or any other part of France, with an inscription sacred to his memory, and expressive of his amiable character and heroic achievements. And that the continental treasurers be directed to advance a sum not exceeding £300 sterling to Doctor Benjamin Franklin, (who is desired to see this resolution properly executed) for defraying the expence thereof.

That Doctor Smith be desired to prepare and deliver a funeral oration in honour of General Montgomery, and of those officers and soldiers, who so magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of American liberty.

Resolved, That the direction of the fleet fitted out by order of Congress, be left to the naval committee.

A letter from General Washington, dated the 14th of January, being received, was read, and referred to the committee of correspondence.

Resolved, That Mr. James Mease be appointed a commissary to supply the battalions ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania with the articles allowed by Congress, and that he be allowed for his trouble one and one-fourth per cent. in full of all charges for the money passing through his hands,

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That Mr. Lynch and Mr. Allen take the security.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the delegates of North-Carolina, for the sum of 10,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised in that Colony.

The committee appointed to take the examination of General Prescott and Captain Chace, made report of their proceedings.

Resolved, That the said committee be directed to make farther enquiry into the character and conduct of General Prescott, and inspect the letters of General Schuyler and General Montgomery concerning him.

Resolved, That Colonel Roberdeau be requested to relieve the guard from Trenton, who have charge of General Prescott and Captain Chace, with a trusty guard from his battalion.

Resolved, That the fortification at Crown Point be not repaired; and that the fortrefs at Ticonderoga be repaired and made defensible; and that General Schuyler be desired to make return to Congress as soon as may be of the size and number of cannon, that will be necessary to fortify that place.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, January 26, 1776.*

A letter from General Lee, dated the 22d of January, enclosing a letter from the committee of safety of New-York, was received and read.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to repair to New-York, to consult and advise with the council of safety of that Colony, and with General Lee, respecting the immediate defence of the city of New-York; and that General Lee be directed to follow the determination of the said committee thereupon.

That it be an instruction to the

said committee, in case the city cannot be defended, that they earnestly recommend it to the inhabitants immediately to remove their most valuable effects to a place of safety.

That the said committee be farther instructed to consult with General Lee and the committee of safety of New-York about the fortifications on Hudson's river, and about fortifying the pass at Hell-gate.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Allen.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to consider what allowance ought to be made for paying the troops in New-Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The members chosen, Mr. Ward, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Allen.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department, for the sum of 1000 dollars; the said commissioners to be accountable.

A petition from sundry persons, respecting the insisting apprentices, was presented, and read.

A letter from Pittsburg, dated the 15th of January, with enclosed papers, was read.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, January 27, 1776.*

A letter from General Washington, dated the 19th of January, one from the committee at Trenton, dated the 24th, one from Lord Stirling, dated the 25th, and one from T. Lowry, dated the 24th of the same month, were read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, and Mr. S. Adams.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Colonel C. Wynkoop, for expences in bringing a party of prisoners from St. John's, the sum of 765.7 dollars, of which 86.2 dollars ought to be charged to the officers of the said party of prisoners.

Or-



Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That the committee of inspection of Esopus or Kingston, be directed to supply the prisoners there with necessary cloathing, and also to provide them with lodging and provisions, not exceeding the rations allowed to privates in the continental army, on the most reasonable terms they can.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, to take into consideration the report of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department, and the state of the Indians in said department.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Paine, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Rogers.

Resolved, That a commission be issued to Cayashota, giving him a rank of a colonel, and that a silver gorget be presented to him.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the case of Mr. Jugé.

Resolved, That Mr. Jugé be permitted to export the manufactures or produce of the colony of Maryland (horned cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry excepted) to any port or place whatsoever (except to Great Britain, Ireland, British isles, the British West-Indies, and except for the supply of the British army or navy in America) to the amount of the canvas imported by him into the said Colony; the said value to be ascertained by the committee of inspection and observation for the county of Baltimore.

Resolved, nevertheless, That the indulgence in this instance ought not to be drawn into example, the same being granted to Mr. Jugé on account of the peculiar circumstances of his case; and that the said Mr. Jugé be enjoined by the aforesaid committee of Baltimore, to avoid, if possible, all British ships of war and armed cutters on his voyage.

A memorial from Henry Keppele

and John Steinmetz was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Ward, Mr. Alexander, and Mr. Wythe.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to take into consideration the matter of inlisting apprentices and persons in debt.

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. McKean and Mr. Wythe.

The committee to whom the treaty held with the Indians at Albany, and the letter from V. P. Douw, Esq. were referred, brought in their report; whereupon,

Resolved, That in order to preserve the confidence and friendship of the Indians, and to prevent their suffering for want of the necessaries of life, a suitable assortment of Indian goods, to the amount of £40,000 sterling, be imported on account and risk of the United Colonies.

That the said goods, when imported, be divided among the different departments in the following proportions, viz. for the Northern Department, comprehending Canada, £13,333 6s 8d sterling; for the Middle Department the like value, and the residue for the Southern Department.

That in order to pay for the said goods, a quantity of produce of these Colonies be exported to some foreign European market, where it will sell to the best advantage.

That the secret committee be empowered to contract with proper persons for importing said goods, and for exporting produce to pay for the same.

That the said goods, when imported, be delivered to the commissioners of Indian affairs, for the respective departments, or their order, in the proportions before mentioned.

That the respective commissioners, or such of them as can conveniently assemble for that purpose, shall, as the

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the goods arrive, fix a price, adding to the first cost interest, the charge of insurance, and all other charges, and also a commission not exceeding two and an half per cent. on the first cost, for their own care and trouble in receiving, storing and selling them to the Indian traders; but such commissioners as are at the same time members of Congress, shall not be burthened with this part of the business, nor receive any part of the aforesaid commission.

That no person shall be permitted to trade with the Indians without licence from one or more of the commissioners of each respective department.

That all traders shall dispose of their goods at such stated reasonable prices, as shall be fixed and ascertained by the commissioners, or a majority of such as can conveniently assemble for that purpose in each respective department, and shall allow the Indians a reasonable price for their skins and furs, and take no unjust advantage of their distress and intemperance; and to this end they shall respectively, upon receiving their licences, enter into bond to the commissioners, for the use of the United Colonies, in such penalty, as the acting commissioners or commissioner shall think proper, conditioned for the performance of the terms and regulations above prescribed.

That to such licensed traders only the respective commissioners shall deliver the goods, so to be imported, in such proportions as they shall judge will best promote a fair trade, and relieve the necessities of the Indians.

That every trader, on receiving the goods, shall pay to the commissioners in hand the price at which they shall be estimated; and the commissioners shall, from time to time, as the money shall come to their hands, transmit the same to the continental treasurers, deducting on-

ly the allowance for their trouble as aforesaid.

That the trade with the Indian nations shall be carried on at such posts and places only as the commissioners for each department shall respectively appoint.

That these resolutions shall not be construed to prevent or debar any private person from importing goods for the Indian trade, under the restrictions expressed in the association.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, January 29, 1776.*

A letter from Governor Trumbull, dated January the 20th, being received, was read.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Mr. James Mease, commissary, for the sum of 5000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania.

The committee to whom were referred the letter from General Washington, dated the 19th instant, with the papers therein mentioned, and the letter from Lord Stirling, dated the 24th, and the letter from the committee at Trenton, dated the day last mentioned, brought in their report; whereupon,

Resolved, That the applications made by General Washington to the governments of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, in such an exigency, to raise a regiment in each of those Colonies for the service of Canada, were prudent, consistent with his duty, and a farther manifestation of his commendable zeal for the good of his country; that the ready attention of the said governments to those applications, and the alacrity with which they undertook, and the expedition with which they proceed in, the business, are additional proofs of their meritorious attachment to the common cause, and may produce signal public advantages; and that it be recommended to the general assembly of Massachusetts.

setts-Bay, to raise the like number of matrosses, and in the like manner, and that both these and the additional regiment there be enlisted on the same terms as those directed to be raised for this service in New-Hampshire, Connecticut, New-York and Pennsylvania, and for this purpose that 12,500 dollars be advanced to the delegates of Massachusetts-Bay, and forwarded by them, with blank military commissions for the field-officers, captains and subalterns, signed by the president to the said general assembly.

That the three regiments to be raised in New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, for the service in Canada, be exclusive of the thirteen intended to reinforce the army at Cambridge.

That the loss of and damage to such fire-arms belonging to the soldiers in the service of the continent, as shall happen not through carelessness or misbehaviour, the value being ascertained in a proper manner, to be provided by the general assemblies, conventions or councils or committees of safety of the United Colonies respectively, be made good to the owners; and that their arms, after their time of service expired, be not detained from them.

That the alertness, activity and good conduct of Lord Sterling, and the forwardness and spirit of the gentlemen, and others, from Elizabeth-Town, who voluntarily assisted him in taking the ship Blue Mountain Valley were laudable and exemplary; and that his lordship be directed to secure the capture until the further order of the Congress, and that in the mean time he cause such part of the loading, as would otherwise perish, to be disposed of by sale.

The committee desired leave to sit again, which was granted.

A petition from Doctor Wheelock, being laid before Congress, was read, and referred to the committee on

Indian affairs in the middle department.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Hugh M'Clenahan, an express from Pittsburg, for expences, &c. the sum of 46.2 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That General Prescott be committed to, and kept in close confinement in, the goal of Philadelphia, till further orders of Congress.

That Captain Chace be remanded to Trenton, and permitted to reside with the other officers on his parole.

A memorial and proposal of Capt. John Nelson, respecting a company of rifle-men, was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to confer with Captain Nelson.

The members chosen, Mr. Morton, Mr. Wisner and Mr. Sherman.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, January 30, 1776.*

Resolved, That Doctor Cadwallder and Doctor Shippen, jun. be desired to inspect the room of the goal where General Prescott is confined, and enquire into the state of his health, and report thereon to Congress.

The committee appointed to confer with Captain Nelson, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon

Resolved, That Captain Nelson's company of rifle-men, now raised, consisting of one captain, three lieutenants, four sergeants, four corporals, and seventy privates, be enlisted for the service of Canada, on the same terms as the other troops ordered for that service, and that they march to Canada, and join a regiment there as soon as possible; that they be allowed one quarter of a dollar per day, for their subsistence on their march to Albany.

That six dollars and two-thirds of a dollar bounty be paid to each non-

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commissioned officer and soldier, who is furnished with sufficient arms, accoutrements and cloathing for the service, upon their entering into the service of the Colonies, and one month's pay to the commissioned officers.

That 900 dollars be advanced to said Captain Nelson for that purpose, and for the subsistence of said company to Reading.

That the sum of 700 dollars be sent to the committee of inspection at Reading; that said committee pay one month's wages to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers upon their arrival there, and deliver the residue of said sum to Capt. Nelson, for the subsistence of said company in their march from thence to Albany; he to account for what money he receives with General Schuyler.

The officers of said company are, John Nelson, captain; Moses Dicker, first lieutenant; Adam Ott, second ditto; Isaac Newkirk, third ditto.

The committee to whom General Washington's letter, of the 14th of January, was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon

Resolved, That all the tent-cloth, which can be procured in Philadelphia and New-York, be purchased for the Congress, and that the quantity necessary for the ensuing campaign in the army before Boston, be forwarded thither, if so much is to be had.

That it be recommended to the several assemblies in New-England, to assist the general in procuring arms; and that the thanks of the Congress be given to such of them as have already done so.

That Mr. James Mease, in Philadelphia, and Mr. Lewis, Mr. Alsop and Mr. L. Morris, in New-York, be directed to carry the former resolution into execution.

The committee on the enlistment of apprentices, &c. brought in their

report, and the same being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That no apprentice whatsoever be enlisted within the colonies of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties on Delaware or Maryland, as a soldier in the army or navy of the United Colonies, without the consent of his master or mistress first obtained in writing, and that all apprentices now enlisted as soldiers in the said army or navy, without such consent, be immediately discharged from the service, on the application of their master or mistresses, upon payment of all just and reasonable charges of their enlistment.

That it be recommended to all creditors, whose demands against any person who is enlisted, or shall enlist, in the continental service, shall not amount to the value of 35 dollars, not to arrest any such debtor till the expiration of the time for which he is enlisted.

That every person under the age of twenty-one years, enlisting himself in the army or navy aforesaid, may, within 24 hours after such enlistment, obtain his discharge, by refunding the money received from the recruiting officer, and returning such necessities as may have been supplied him by the officer, or the value thereof in money.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for the sum of 1000 dollars, to discharge a draught of the pay master-general, for so much deposited with him, for the use of the United Colonies.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, to take into consideration an application from the committee of safety for New-York.

The members chosen, Mr. Ward, Mr. Paine, Mr. Paca, Mr. Lee and Mr. Rodney.

Resolved, That the naval committee be empowered to draw on the treasurers for a sum not exceeding



30,000 dollars, in order to discharge sundry debts by them contracted.

Resolved, That Mr. Morris be added to the committee of secret correspondence.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, January 31, 1776.*

Sundry letters, viz. one from Lord Sterling, dated the 27th of January, one from the committee of Trenton, of the 30th, one from Colonel St. Clair, of the 27th, and one from Colonel Maxwell, of the 31st of the same month, were laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed, to confer with Colonel Maxwell respecting the state of his regiment, and report the means of facilitating and hastening his march.

The members chosen, Mr. Livingston and Mr. Wilson,

A report from Doctor Cadwallader and Doctor Shippen, respecting the room where General Prescott is confined, and the state of the general's health, was laid before Congress, and read.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter from Col. St. Clair, respecting the enlistment of some of the prisoners at Lancaster,

Resolved, That the prisoners, who have been enlisted into the continental army, be discharged, and that no more be enlisted.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing resolve be sent to the committee of Lancaster.

The committee to whom sundry letters were referred, on the 27th instant, brought in a farther report; whereupon

Resolved, That Mr. Barbarie, owner of the sloop and cargo said to have been taken by the enemy, and retaken by one of the continental vessels of war, ought to make and prosecute his claim to the same before the court appointed, or to be appointed, by the government of the

Colony to which the said sloop and cargo were carried, to hear and determine causes civil and maritime, where a process ought to be instituted, to confirm the recapture, and adjust the salvage.

The committee appointed to confer with Colonel Maxwell, brought in their report; whereupon

Resolved, That Mr. Thomas Lowry, commissary for the battalions in New-Jersey, be directed to procure all necessaries, except arms, for Col. Maxwell's regiment immediately, and that the cost of the cloathing and other articles absolutely essential, which the non-commissioned officers and privates are to pay for, be by the said commissary procured forthwith, the cost thereof to be deducted out of the pay of the said non-commissioned officers and soldiers; and that the convention or committee of safety of New-Jersey get the arms already ordered with all possible expedition, and afford Mr. Lowry all assistance in the execution of the above.

That the company in the said regiment, which is nearest being furnished, be supplied by any arms and necessaries in the said battalion, and marched for Canada, and that the other companies be furnished, and marched as soon as possible.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter from Lord Stirling,

Resolved, That the private adventures of the captain and mates of the transport Blue Mountain Valley be delivered to them, and that they be permitted to return to England.

The delegates for Massachusetts-Bay laid before Congress an account of their appointment, by which it appears, that

The Honourable John Hancock, Esq; Mr. Samuel Adams, John Adams, Esq; Robert Treat Paine, Esq; Eldridge Geary, Esq; are elected to represent the said Colony in Congress for the year 1776:

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

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*Thursday, February 1, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the delegates of Virginia, for the sum of 333<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> dollars, for the use of Mr. J. Walker, one of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, the said delegates to be accountable.

Resolved, That a member be added to the committee on the state of the treasury, in the room of Mr. Cushing.

The member chosen, Mr. S. Adams.

Resolved, That General Prescott be allowed the attendance of his servant, and of a physician, in case his health require it:

Resolved, That the committee of safety for Pennsylvania be desired to take the parole of such officers, who are prisoners now in Philadelphia, and order them to their respective places of residence.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on establishing posts and expresses, and after debate,

Resolved, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed, and that in the mean while Dr. Franklin be directed to write to the post-masters, and enquire on what terms expresses can be procured.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, February 2, 1776.*

Two letters from General Schuyler dated 22d and 25th January, accompanied with an account of his expedition to Tryon county, and enclosing sundry dispatches from Canada, and other papers, being received, were read, and referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Kean.

A receipt of General Schuyler for £7829 9 0 Pennsylvania currency, equal to 20878<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> dollars, sent him by order of the 30th of December, was laid before Congress.

A letter from Colonel Wayne being read,

Resolved, That Colonel Wayne be

directed to quarter his battalion in and near Chester, until the farther orders of Congress, or of a committee of Congress, for that purpose appointed.

Ordered, That the secretary deliver Mr. J. Mease a copy of Colonel Wayne's letter, so far as respects the supplying his battalion with necessaries.

The committee to whom the memorial of M. Aspden was referred, brought in their report, whereupon

Resolved, That Mr. Matthias Aspden be permitted to export in the sloop Tryal, consigned to him from Port au Prince, the produce or manufactures of these Colonies (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and lumber for making casks excepted) to Port au Prince, to the amount of eighteen hundred pounds, Pennsylvania currency.

That the above permission be not drawn into precedent, and that Mr. Aspden take every possible precaution to avoid all British men of war and cutters on the voyage.

The committee to whom the memorial of Kepple and Steinmatz was referred, brought in their report, whereupon

Resolved, That the memorialists have no just claim to satisfaction or reparation for the loss of their ship and cargo, seized by one of the King's ships of war, and detained by Admiral Graves and General Howe, either out of the continental treasury, or out of the value of the cloathing sent hither to supply the British troops at Boston, and intercepted and disposed of to the use of the American army.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take an account of the prisoners, the names of the officers, and their places of residence, and report the same to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Kean, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Wisner.

A memorial from the Rev. Mr. Samson

Samson Occum was read, and referred to the committee on Indian affairs.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday next.

*Monday, February 5, 1776.*

Resolved, That General Schuyler be directed to have the arms of such of the troops marching to Canada, as pass through Albany, carefully examined there, and such of them as are deficient and want repair exchanged for the good effective arms taken from the Tories, and to order those exchanged and left, to be repaired.

The committee to whom General Schuyler's letters were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon.

Resolved, That General Schuyler has proceeded, in disarming such inhabitants of the county of Tryon, in the colony of New-York, as were disaffected, and providing for the future tranquility of these parts, with fidelity, prudence, and dispatch, and at the same time with a proper temper towards that deluded people, and thereby performed a meritorious service.

That the cheerfulness and ready assistance of those who accompanied General Schuyler in his march to the county of Tryon, and their useful services in that expedition, discovered such a patriotic spirit, that it is hoped none of them will allow their countrymen to entertain a suspicion that any ignoble motive actuated them, by requiring a pecuniary reward, especially when they were employed in suppressing a mischief in their own neighbourhood.

That the resolution of Congress of the 18th of last month for sending ship-wrights from the cities of New-York and Philadelphia, to build batteaux at Ticonderoga, be superseded, and that General Schuyler be desired to employ any such artificers, as

he shall think proper, in that business.

That General Schuyler be desired to issue warrants for completing the regiment directed to be raised in New-York for the service of Canada; and that it be recommended to the convention of that Colony to appoint such officers thereof, as General Schuyler hath nominated.

That the appointments by General Schuyler of Mr. Hubbard Brown to be conductor of artillery, Gylbert Marfeils, Esq; to be barrack master, Mr. Peter Schuyler to take charge of the arms, and Mr. Philip Van Ranselair, to be store-keeper at Albany, be confirmed; and that General Schuyler be desired to inform Congress of the proper salaries to be annexed to those offices.

That General Schuyler be desired to procure skilful persons to assist General Wooster in exploring the river St. Lawrence, and to construct the armed boats to be kept there, according to a former resolution of Congress.

That the bounty given by General Schuyler for encouraging men into the Canadian service be approved, in consideration of the severe climate and inclement season.

That by the resolution of Congress of the 8th of last month, respecting the provision and stores to be sent to Fort George, it was intended as General Schuyler understood it, that he should be supplied with such of those articles as he should require.

That General Schuyler be desired to employ such batteau-men as are in or near Albany, instead of those it was recommended to the convention of New-York to procure, upon the best terms he can, and to acquaint Congress for what wages they will serve.

That Captain ——— Wyncop be employed under Commodore Douglass in the naval department.

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Ordered, That General Schuyler's narrative of his march into Tryon county be published in the newspapers.

The committee to whom the memorial of Samson Occum, one of the Mohegan Indians, in Connecticut, was referred, brought in their report, whereupon

Resolved, That a friendly commerce between the people of the United Colonies and the Indians, and the propagation of the gospel, and the cultivation of the civil arts among the latter, may produce many and inestimable advantages to both; and that the commissioners for Indian affairs be desired to consider of proper places in their respective departments for the residence of ministers and school-masters, and report the same to Congress.

That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department be desired to enquire of Mr. Jacob Fowler of the Montauke tribe of Indians on Long-Island, and Mr. Joseph Johnson of the Mohegan, upon what terms they will reside among the six nations of Indians, and instruct them in the Christian religion.

Resolved, That Mr. Dohicky Arundel, who was recommended to the notice of Congress by Mr. Lewis, be desired to repair to Gen. Schuyler, and that General Schuyler be directed to examine him, and if he finds him capable, and suitably qualified, to employ him in the artillery-service in Canada.

Dr. Cadwallader having, in a letter to the president, represented, that being sent for by General Prescott last Saturday night, he found him in a dangerous state of health, and farther expressing an apprehension, that the dampness of the room may endanger the general's life, if he remains there long. It was thereupon

Resolved, That Dr. Cadwallader be desired to have proper lodgings

provided for General Prescott; and that General Prescott be removed from the goal to said lodgings, and there kept under a guard.

That the commanding officer of the troops in the barracks of Philadelphia be directed to keep a proper guard over General Prescott.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, February 6, 1776.*

A letter from the committee of safety for New-York was read, informing that General Clinton arrived there on the 4th inst. but that it was apprehended his destination was to the southward.

Ordered, That a copy of said letter be sent to the Southern Colonies.

The Congress being informed that Colonel Heard having performed the service enjoined him, was ready to make report of his proceedings.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with Colonel Heard, and receive his report.

The members chosen, Mr. Crane, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. McKean.

A petition from sundry captains of the New-Jersey battalions was laid before Congress and read, whereupon

Resolved, That the sum of one dollar, and one third of a dollar, be allowed to the officers of the two first New-Jersey battalions, for every recruit by them raised and that has passed muster.

A letter from the committee of Reading in Berks county was read, mentioning the arrival of a number of prisoners, and desiring to know how they are to be supported.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the committee appointed to contract for supplying the prisoners.

Resolved, That two members be added to said committee in the room of those absent.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Wolcott.

The committee on the regulations of trade after the first of March next, brought



brought in their report, which was read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to Thursday next, then to be considered in a committee of the whole.

Resolved, That General Schuyler be desired to encourage sutlers to attend the army in Canada, and that they return such specie as they shall receive for the articles they supply it with, to the commissary, who shall draw orders, countersigned by the general, for the amount thereof, upon the president; by which a sufficient stock may be in hand to pay off the soldiers, and the risk and expence of sending money for that purpose may be avoided.

The committee appointed to confer with Colonel Heard, laid before Congress a list of nineteen persons taken into custody by him, agreeable to the orders of Congress, and brought to Philadelphia.

The names of the prisoners are, Benjamin Whitehead, Joseph French, John Polhemus, Nathaniel Moor, Samuel Hallet, William Weyman, John Shoals, John Willet, Gilbert Van Wyck, Daniel Kiffam, Jacob Mott, Gabriel G. Ludlow, Charles Hicks, Samuel Martin, Samuel Clowes, Thomas Smith, George Weeks, David Brooks, John Townsend.

Resolved, That the said prisoners be sent to New-York, and delivered to the order of the convention of that Colony, who are requested to confine or secure the said prisoners, until an enquiry be had by the convention into their conduct, and report thereof made to this Congress.

Ordered, That the committee confirm with Colonel Heard about the mode of sending the prisoners to New-York.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To George Kennedy, on sundry certificates by him produced the sum

of 427.1 dollars, of which 338.9 dollars being for rifles, &c. furnished to Captain Morgan's company of rifle-men from Virginia, ought to be charged to said company, and the remainder to the continent.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to bring in a resolution respecting the exportation of naval stores for the public service.

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Ward, Mr. Paine, and Mr. S. Adams.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, February 7, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Peter Webbers, an express, for the sum of 8 dollars, for the time he has been detained in town.

Two letters from Lord Stirling, dated the 2d and 5th of this month, with sundry papers enclosed, were read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Chase, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Wythe.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the letter from the committee of safety for New-Jersey, respecting the prisoners, and after debate,

Resolved, That the same be re-committed to the committee who brought it in, and to the committee appointed to take an account of the prisoners.

That it be an instruction to the committee to examine the capitulations entered into with the prisoners at the time of their surrender, to have the paroles of the officers taken, to order them to their respective places of residence, to see that the capitulations be duly observed, and the orders of Congress respecting the prisoners punctually carried into execution, and finally to make a return to Congress of the paroles of the officers, their names

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As only three of the former committees are now present, viz. Mr. Adams, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Smith.

Resolved, That two more be added.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Wolcott.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. James Mease, for the sum of 10,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, he to be accountable.

That a like order be drawn in favour of the naval committee, for the sum of 20,000 dollars, to enable them to discharge the debts by them contracted, the said committee to be accountable.

That the sum of 250,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master-general for the use of the army at Cambridge.

The committee on the letters from Reading reported, that they have had a conference with David Franks, Esq; agent to the contractors for victualling the King's troops, who says he will order rations to be issued to the prisoners lately brought to Reading, whereupon

Resolved, That D. Franks, Esq; be permitted to victual the prisoners at Reading, and to sell his bills to defray the expence thereof.

That directions be given to Henry Holler to furnish said prisoners with fuel and other necessaries.

A memorial from Murray, Sanfom, and Co. Jacob Watson, and Frederic Rhinelander of the city of New-York, was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Lee, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Read,

A petition of Pierre L'Farque being presented to Congress and read,

Resolved, That it be referred to the secret committee.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to examine the Journals and report a list of the matters yet unfinished.

The members chosen, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Smith.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, February 8, 1776.*

Resolved, That the money voted yesterday be sent to the pay-master-general, under the care of Colonel Bull, and two other trusty persons.

The treasurers transmitted to Congress an account of fundry draughts by them paid, viz.

August 23, 1775. One in favour of John Mease by Gen. Washington, for 266 $\frac{2}{3}$  dollars.

Nov. 27, 1775. One in favours of Dr. Franklin, by James Warren, for 7111 dollars.

February 2, 1776. One in favour of Cox and Furman, by ditto, for 1000 dollars.

Feb. 6, 1776. One in favour of John Beane, by ditto, for 750 dollars.

Ordered, That the above sums be charged to the account of James Warren, the pay-master-general.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to contract with a proper person to supply Col. Wayne's battalion with the rations allowed them.

Also with a proper person to supply the Pennsylvania troops on the west side of the Susquehannah; and with a proper person to supply the battalion ordered to be raised in the counties on Delaware, while in that government.

The members chosen, Mr. Morton, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Wilson.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Tench Tilghman, for escorting money from Philadelphia to Gen. Schuyler, the sum of 286.9 dollars.

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To Azariah Dunham on sundry certificates for provisions to several rifle companies, 25.8 dollars.

To Melchior Ming, for waggon hire in carrying money to Cambridge, the sum of 76 dollars.

To Moses Gale, for the entertainment of Captain Cluggage's company of rifle-men, 9.7 dollars to be paid to Henry Wiiner, Esq;

To John B. Scott, for expences in conducting General Prescott from Trenton to Philadelphia, 14.3 dollars.

To George Bunner, for waggon hire in carrying money from Philadelphia to General Schuyler, last November, 39 dollars.

To Dennis Sneed, for ferriage, provisions, &c. the sum of 50.6 dollars, to be paid to John Alsop, Esq;

To Jesse Jones, for horse hire, 8.7 dollars, to be paid to Mr. Dealing.

To Mark Bird for necessities to prisoners, 5.8—10 dollars

To George Meade and Co. on several certificates, 104.4 dollars of which 99.2 being for rifles furnished Capt. H. Stevenson's company ought to be charged to said company.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

The committee farther reported, that Mr. M'Kean had laid before them an account of the application of 40 dollars put into his hands by Congress, by which it appears that there remains in his hands the sum of 15.4 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid to Timothy Matlack; he to be accountable.

The committee on the disposition of the prisoners reported the form of a parole to be signed by the officers, which being read was agreed to, as follows :

I being made a prisoner of war by the army of the Thirteen United Colonies in North-

America, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence immediately to in the Province of being the

place of my election, and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between Great Britain and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the assembly, convention, or committee or council of safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say any thing in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies, during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Give under my hand, this day of A. D.

The secret committee to whom the petition of Mr. Pierre L'Farque was referred, brought in their report, whereupon

Resolved, Mr. Pierre L'Farque be permitted to load the sloop, in which he imported a small quantity of powder and arms, with the produce of these Colonies (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and lumber for making casks excepted) and export the same to Martinique. And that the said Mr. Pierre L'Farque do take every possible precaution to avoid all British men of war and cutters on the voyage, and use his utmost endeavours to import into these Colonies the powder and arms mentioned in his memorial, and proposed to be imported by him.

The committee on the memorial of Santom, Murray, and Co. &c. brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, respecting the erecting of powder-mills, was presented to Congress and read,

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Ordered to lie on the table.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Dohicky Arundel, for the sum of 100 dollars, and that he be directed immediately to repair to General Schuyler.

That a quarter cask of powder be delivered to Capt. Craig of Colonel St. Clair's battalion, for the use of his company.

That the sum of 12,000 dollars be advanced to the convention or committee of safety for New-York, for the use of the four battalions ordered to be raised there; that the same be transmitted by the delegates of that Colony, the said convention or committee of safety to be accountable.

A memorial from Dr. Connolly, together with a letter from Dr. Benjamin Rush, respecting the state of said Connolly's health, was presented to Congress and read, whereupon

Resolved, That the said J. Connolly be allowed at suitable times to walk in the prison-yard or hall, the goal keeper taking especial care to prevent his escape.

The inhabitants of Richmond county in the colony of New-York, having refused to send deputies to represent them in Provincial Convention, and otherwise manifested their enmity and opposition to the system and measures adopted for preserving the liberties of America, and as a just punishment for their inimical conduct, the inhabitants of that Colony, having been prohibited by the convention from all intercourse and dealings with the inhabitants of the said county, and this Congress being informed by the committee of safety of that Colony, that the freeholders of the said county did afterwards, without any opposition, elect deputies to represent them in Provincial Convention, but as the proceedings against them had been submitted to the consideration of Congress, it was apprehended the deputies could not be received, until the sense of Con-

gress thereupon should be communicated.

Resolved, therefore, That it be referred to the said Provincial Convention to take such measures respecting the admission of the deputies, and revoking the interdict against the inhabitants of said county, as they shall judge most expedient, provided that the said deputies and major part of the inhabitants of said county shall subscribe the association entered into in that Colony.

Resolved, That Monday the 19th day of this month be assigned for Dr. Smith to deliver a funeral oration in honour of General Montgomery, and of those officers and soldiers who so magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of American Liberty.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, February 9, 1776.*

Mr. Elbridge Gerry, one of the delegates for Massachusetts-Bay appeared and took his seat in Congress, whereupon the certificate of their appointment and powers was read, as follows:

*"In Council, January 18, 1776.*

Whereas John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, and Elbridge Gerry, Esqrs. have been chosen by joint ballot of the two houses of assembly, to represent the colony of Massachusetts-Bay in New-England, in the American Congress, until the first day of Jan. A. D. 1777.

Resolved, That they, or any one or more of them, are hereby fully empowered with the delegates from the other American Colonies to concert, direct, and order such farther measures, as shall to them appear best calculated for the establishment, of right and liberty to the American Colonies, upon a basis permanent and secure, against the power and art of the British administration, and guarded against any future encroachments of their enemies, with power to ad-



jour to such times and places, as shall appear most conducive to the public safety and advantage.

Read and accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

JOHN LOWELL, Dep. Sec. pro tem.

*In the house of representatives, Jan. 18, 1776.*

Read and concurred. And the secretary is hereby directed, as soon as may be, to signify to each of those gentlemen their appointment, with an attested copy of this order.

Sent up for concurrence.

JAMES WARREN, Speaker.

*In Council, January 18, 1776.*

Read and concurred.

JOHN LOWELL, Dep. Sec. pro tem.

A true copy,

Attest. PEREZ MORTON, Dep. Sec.

Sundry letters being received, were laid before Congress and read, viz.

Two from General Washington, of the 24th and 30th of January, enclosing a copy of one to General Schuyler, 27th January, and a number of intercepted letters.

Three from Gen. Schuyler, 29th and 31st January, and 1st of Feb. enclosing copies of two letters from Colonel Arnold, and sundry other papers.

One from Governor Trumbull, 3d February, with sundry papers enclosed.

Resolved, That the foregoing letters be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Chase, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Penn, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Rutledge.

Two letters from the convention of New-Jersey, of the 6th of February, were read.

The one respecting tea, referred for consideration to Monday next.

The other recommending persons for field officers of the third battalion, ordered to be raised in that Colony.

Whereupon the Congress proceeded to election, and,

Elias Dayton was elected colonel.

Anthony Walton White, lieutenant-colonel.

Francis Barber, major.

A memorial from Mr. Kirkland was presented to Congress and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the second memorial of Sansom, Murray and company, &c.

Resolved, That the memorialists be permitted to make sale of their cargo of wheat, in Connecticut, or else to proceed on their original voyage to Falmouth in England, and a market, under the office papers and clearances, with which the said vessel failed with from New-York in September last, and also subject to the former restrictions of Congress respecting the appointment of a commander.

The Congress being informed of the arrival of some arms, powder and saltpetre.

Resolved, That the committee appointed on the 13th of last month to purchase the saltpetre then imported, &c. be directed and empowered to take every necessary measure to have the saltpetre now arrived manufactured into gun-powder with all possible expedition.

That two tons of the powder now arrived, belonging to the United Colonies, be delivered to the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, in part of the powder borrowed of them.

That one ton of said powder be delivered to the delegates of North Carolina, in consequence of a former order of Congress, which has not yet been complied with.

That the committee appointed for manufacturing the saltpetre into gun-powder be directed to enquire into the state and quantity of the arms, powder and saltpetre now arrived, and report to Congress.

A me-

A memorial from Stacy Hepburn was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. McKean, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Penn.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday next.

*Monday, February 12, 1776.*

A letter from General Lee, dated the 9th inst. being received, was read, wherein he informs, that a transport with troops was arrived at New-York, that more might be expected, and therefore that a farther reinforcement was necessary to secure and defend that place, whereupon,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New Jersey immediately to send detachments of their minute men equal to a battalion, under proper officers, to New-York, there to be under the command of Major General Lee.

That it is also recommended to the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, immediately to send detachments of the four battalions of associators in Philadelphia to New-York, there to put themselves under the command of General Lee.

Resolved, That the colonels of the battalions ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, be directed to make an immediate return to Congress of the men enlisted, the places where they now are, and the manner in which they are appointed.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to send to New-York one ton of the powder belonging to the United Colonies, and that the same be delivered to the order of General Lee.

That the said committee be empowered to purchase for the use of the United Colonies, on the best terms they can, what powder and arms arrive, belonging to private persons, and that they furnish with good arms such of the three remain-

ing companies of the first Pennsylvania battalion destined for Canada, as may want them, in order that they may immediately proceed on their march.

Resolved, That fifty tons of saltpetre be delivered by the secret committee to the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, who are requested to have the same manufactured into gun-powder in the cheapest and most expeditious manner, and that this Congress will confirm any contracts made for the above purpose.

That ten tons of saltpetre be by them sent to Mr. J. B. Livingston's mill in the Colony of New-York, and that Mr. Livingston be desired to manufacture it into powder as soon as possible, and to enlarge his works if it can be conveniently done.

That ten tons of saltpetre be also by them sent to the council of the Colony of Massachusetts-Bay, and that they be desired to have it manufactured into gun-powder, with all possible expedition, and sent to General Washington for the use of the army under his command.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the committee of inspection for the county of Chester to aid Colonel Wayne in procuring blankets for his battalion.

The Congress being informed that a gentleman was arrived from Canada, who had matters of importance to communicate.

Ordered, That the committee of correspondence confer with him and report to Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, February 13, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of John Chapman, for the sum of eight hundred dollars, to discharge a draught of the paymaster general, in favour of William Thompson, Esq; dated the 28th of December last, and that the same be charged to the account of the paymaster general.

Sundry

Sundry letters being received were read, viz.

One from the convention of New-Jersey, dated the 10th, and one from Messrs. Dayton and Barber of the 12th of this month.

One from Captain John Nevill, dated Pittsburgh, February 1st, and one from John Gibson, dated 20th of January last.

Resolved, That the two last letters be referred to the committee of Indian affairs in the middle department.

That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the two former letters.

The members chosen, Mr. Smith, Mr. Bartlett, and Mr. Adams.

Resolved, That an order for eight thousand dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the committee of safety for the three Lower Counties on Delaware, for the sum of 8000 dollars, for the use of the battalion raising in that government, the said committee to be accountable.

That an order for ten thousand dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of James Mease, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

That Mr. Mease be directed to supply the troops in the barracks near Philadelphia, with wooden bowls, buckets and other necessities.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, in case the barracks near Philadelphia cannot contain all the troops raised in said Colony, that they cause part of them to be quartered in the pest-house and old goal of this city.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Colonel Bull, for the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, to defray his expences in carrying money to Cambridge, he to be accountable.

The committee on the petition of Stacy Hepburn brought in their re-

port, which was agreed to as follows:

That the said petitioner be permitted to load the sloop Dolphin with the produce of these Colonies, (live stock and lumber for making casks excepted) and to transport the same to Hispaniola, he promising to use his utmost endeavours to remit the amount of said cargo in military stores into some port of this continent as soon as possible.

The committee appointed to prepare a resolution for the exportation of naval stores brought in the same which was agreed to as follows:

Resolved, That when naval stores shall be wanted in any of the United Colonies, the assembly, convention, or committee of safety of such Colony, may intrust a proper person or persons to import the same, taking sufficient security, of him or them, that they will faithfully use their best endeavours to import the same into such port or ports as the said assembly, convention, or committee of safety shall direct, and as much as possible to avoid all British men of war and cutters, giving him or them, a certificate or certificates of the naval stores wanted, and also of his having given the said security: and that it be recommended to the convention, council of safety, and committees of observation and inspection of North-Carolina upon receiving such certificates, to permit the person or persons producing the same to export to the Colony applying for the same, the naval stores wanted by such Colony.

That it be further recommended to the said convention, council of safety and committees of inspection and observation in North-Carolina, to give permission to such vessels as may have arrived in that Colony for those articles, or such of the vessels belonging to that Colony, as they may think proper, to export naval stores to any of the United Colonies, taking

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security as in the other cases above mentioned.

Resolved, That the pay and subsistence of two of the battalions ordered to be raised in the colony of Virginia, commence from the first day of November last; from which time they have been in actual service.

The convention of Virginia having recommended persons for field officers of the six battalions ordered to be raised in that Colony, the Congress proceeded to an election, when

Patrick Henry, Esq; was elected colonel of the 1st battalion; William Christian, Esq; lieutenant-colonel; Frank Eppes, Esq; major. William Woodford, Esq; colonel of the 2d battalion; Charles Scott, Esq; lieutenant colonel; Alexander Spotwood, Esq; major. Hugh Mercer, Esq; colonel of the 3d battalion; George Weedon, Esq; lieutenant-colonel; Thomas Marshal Esq; major. Adam Stephen, Esq; colonel of the fourth battalion; Isaac Reade, Esq; lieutenant-colonel; Robert Lawson, Esq; major. William Peachey, Esq; colonel of the 5th battalion; William Crawford, Esq; lieutenant-colonel; Josiah Parker, Esq; major. Mordecai Buckner, Esq; colonel of the 6th battalion; Thomas Elliott, Esq; lieutenant-colonel; James Hendricks, Esq; major.

Ordered, That the president fill up commissions to the above officers, and that he send blank commissions to the convention of Virginia to be by them filled up with the names of the officers appointed by them in the said battalions, under the rank of a major.

Resolved, That the deputy muster master general be directed to muster the battalion raised in the three lower counties on Delaware, and also those raised in Pennsylvania, and make return to Congress.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to consider into what departments the middle and southern colonies ought to be formed, in order that the military operations of the Colonies may be carried on in a regular and systematic manner.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilton, Mr. Penn, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Alexander.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the delegates of Virginia for the sum of 20,000 dollars for the use of the battalions, ordered to be raised there, the convention of that Colony to be accountable.

Resolved, That Mr. M'Kean be desired to request the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia not to proceed in passing any censures on the venders, and users of tea, till further orders from Congress.

Resolved, That the detachments marching from Philadelphia to New-York, under the command of Colonel Dickinson be allowed for subsistence while on their march, the sum of one dollar and one-third per week for each of the privates, and non-commissioned officers be allowed in proportion according to the rations allotted to them, and that they receive the same pay as the four Pennsylvania battalions, from the time they begin their march.

That a committee of three be appointed to consider the best method of subsisting the troops in New-York, and what sum of money it will be necessary to send thither, and also what sum ought to be advanced to Colonel Dickinson.

The members chosen Mr. Sherman, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Wilton.

A petition from Mr. Bernard Romans was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the convention of New-York to pay Mr. Bernard Romans up  
to



to the 9th day of the present month.

Resolved, That an order for 600 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Samuel Fairlamb (who has contracted to supply Colonel Wayne's battalion, quartered in and near Chester at the rate of  $\frac{7}{8}$  of a dollar per ration) to enable him to execute his contract, he to be accountable.

The committee appointed to prepare an address to the inhabitants of the United Colonies, brought in a draught which was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Resolved, That Captain Gordon, upon giving his parole, be permitted, while he remains in town, to visit Gen. Prescott at proper seasons.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, February 14, 1776.*

Resolved, That two of the brass six pounders at New-York belonging to the United Colonies, be sent to Virginia for the use of the forces there.

Sundry letters being received were read.

One from General Schuyler of the 7th of this month.

One from General Wooller of 29 January, and one from Gen. Arnold of 24th of said month.

Resolved, That the foregoing letters with the papers enclosed, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. J. Adams and Mr. Chase.

A letter from the committee of Amboy dated 10th of this month, was read and referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To John Ware for conducting a French gentleman from Harwich Township in Suffex County to Philadelphia, the sum of 13.2 dollars.

Ordered that the same be paid.

Application being made by some of the maller carpenters employed in

building the continental frigates to some members of this house, informing that about fifty of their journeymen and apprentices had engaged as volunteers to march with the battalion of associators for New-York, and that their zeal for the public service was such, that they cannot be persuaded to desist by any arguments or influence of said builders.

Resolved, That the spirit and zeal of the said journeymen and apprentices is highly approved of by Congress, but nevertheless it is the opinion of this Congress, that the public will be more essentially served by their continuing at work on the said continental frigates, and that therefore all the carpenters journeymen and apprentices employed as aforesaid be requested to remain in that service, as there is no doubt but other associators will complete the number wanted.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the committee on the regulations and restrictions under which the ports should be opened after the first day of March next, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the report of the committee on the restrictions and regulations of trade after the first of March next.

The committee of correspondence, who were ordered to confer with the gentleman from Canada, brought in their report, which was read.

Resolved, That the consideration thereof be referred till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to consider the best method of subsisting the troops

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troops in New-York, laid their report on the table.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, February 15, 1776.*

Resolved, That the secret committee deliver one hundred and fifty stand of arms to Colonel Maxwell, for the use of such of the companies of his battalion as want them, in order that they may immediately proceed to Canada.

The committee to whom the letters from the convention of New-Jersey, and from the field officers of the third battalion, ordered to be raised in that Colony, were referred, brought in their report, which was read and agreed to as follows :

Resolved, That Colonel Heard be directed to furnish Colonel Dayton with such of the arms lately brought from Long-Island, as are or may be fit for service, or so many of them as Colonel Dayton may desire.

That 30,000 dollars be advanced to Thomas Lowrey on account, and that he be fully authorized to procure all necessaries (except arms) ordered by Congress, for the three battalions raised or to be raised in the Colony of New-Jersey.

That the convention or committee of safety of New-Jersey be allowed from the continental stock, half a ton of powder, out of which they are to repay what has been borrowed from Elizabeth-Town, Somerset, Woodbridge, and Brunswick.

That to the same convention or committee of safety be advanced the further sum of 5000 dollars for the purpose of completing the three battalions there with arms, which they are desired to accomplish with all possible expedition.

Resolved, That two tons of the powder belonging to the continent be delivered to the delegates of Virginia for the use of the forces in that Colony.

Sundry letters by Colonel Ritzema being received were read, viz.

One from General Lee dated the 11th, and one from General Schuyler of the 4th of this month, with one from General Wooster of the 27th January.

Resolved, That the said letters be referred to the committee to whom the letters received yesterday were referred, and that the said committee be directed to confer with Colonel Ritzema, and report to Congress.

Information being received that General Clinton was gone from New-York, the Congress came to the following resolution :

The Congress have a proper sense of the spirit and patriotism of the associators of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, in cheerfully offering and preparing to march, in order to assist in the defence of New-York; but as the danger, which occasioned an application for their service, is at present over,

Resolved, That their march to New-York be suspended.

Resolved, That a pay-master be appointed for the troops in Virginia, and that his pay be 50 dollars per month.

The Congress then proceeded to the election, and Benjamin Harrison, jun. of Berkley was chosen.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee of correspondence,

Resolved, That a committee of three, (two of whom to be members of Congress) be appointed to repair to Canada, there to pursue such instructions as shall be given them by Congress.

The members chosen, Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Mr. S. Chase, and Mr. C. Carroll of Carrolton.

Resolved, That Mr. Carroll be requested to prevail on Mr. John Carroll to accompany the committee to Canada, to assist them in such matters as they shall think useful.

That this Congress will make provision

vision to defray any expences which may attend this measure.

Resolved, That eight tons of powder be immediately sent to Canada, for the use of the forces there.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Richard Smith for provisions furnished by sundry persons in New-York government to Capt. Rofs's company of rifle-men, the sum of 28.8 dollars.

To Michael Connolly on account of expences in bringing the women and children belonging to the 26th and 7th regiment from Esopus to Reading, the sum of 1082.8 dollars.

To Colonel Simes on account of expences in bringing the baggage of the 26th and 7th regiments from Walpack to Lancaster, and several other small expences, the sum of 569 dollars.

To Thomas M'Enry for 800 canteen straps, the sum of 133½ dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee to whom the letter from the committee of safety of New-York of the 3d of January, and the letter from Gov. Trumbull of the 6th of the same month were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That no farther works be erected on Martler's-rock, but that those already erected there be supported and garrisoned.

That a fascine battery to mount heavy cannon, not exceeding eighteen in number, be thrown up on the Gravel-Hill eastward of Martler's-Rock, marked in the draught L L, so as to command the west point, the reach down the rivers from the west point, and part of the reach up the river; and that a convenient road be opened from this battery to the barracks on Martler's-Rock.

That a redoubt of earth and fas-

cines be built on the eminence on the east side of the river opposite to the west point marked in the draught A to mount thirty guns.

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York to forward the battery at Pooplopen's-Kill; and that the said battery be made of earth and fascines, and to mount a number of guns, not exceeding forty.

That such of the continental troops as are or may be stationed at the aforesaid places, be employed in erecting these works and batteries under the direction of the engineer.

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York to prosecute the discovery of the lead mine at New Canaan, and that a copy of the report of Joseph Hopkins to the general assembly of Connecticut respecting this mine be sent to them.

The Congress took into consideration the report from the committee of the whole house, and after debate

Resolved, That the same be re-committed.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow morning resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports, and the restrictions and regulations of the trade of these Colonies after the first of March next.

Resolved, That the committee on ways and means to procure cannon, be directed to enquire what quantity of brass can be procured, and that they be empowered to contract for the same.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, February 16, 1776.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to furnish Colonel St. Clair's battalion with arms, and that the president write to Col. St. Clair, and direct him to use the utmost diligence in getting his battalion ready, and to march the com-

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panies, one at a time, as fast as they can be got ready, to Canada, with all possible expedition.

The committee appointed to make an estimate of the cannon wanted, for the defence of the Colonies, and to devise ways and means for procuring them, &c. brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports, and the restrictions and regulations of the trade of these Colonies after the first of March next, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow morning resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the propriety of opening the ports, and the restrictions and regulations of trade after the first of March next.

The committee to whom General Washington and Gen. Schuyler's letters were referred, laid their report on the table.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, February 17, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order for ten thousand dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of James Mease, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

That Colonel James Irvine, of the sixth Pennsylvania battalion, be authorized and impowered to purchase good arms for the use of his battalion, the price of the same to be deducted out of the pay of the men.

The committee on the state of the treasury brought in a report which was read.

Resolved, That a standing com-

mittee of five be appointed for superintending the treasury.

That it be the business of this committee, to examine the accounts of the treasurers, and from time to time report to Congress the state of the treasury.

To consider of ways and means for supplying gold and silver for the support of the army in Canada.

To employ and instruct proper persons for liquidating the public accounts, with the different paymasters and commissaries in the continental service, and the conventions, committees of safety and others, who have been or shall be intrusted with the public money, and from time to time to report the state of such accounts to Congress.

To superintend the emission of bills of credit.

To obtain from the different assemblies and conventions of the United Colonies, accounts of the number of inhabitants in each Colony, according to the resolution of Congress on that subject.

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Smith and Mr. Willing.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the treasury.

Resolved, That a farther sum of four millions of dollars be emitted on the same security, as the sums heretofore emitted by Congress have been.

That the committee for superintending the treasury be directed to consider the numbers and denominations of the bills, in which it will be proper to emit the above four millions, and report to Congress.

The committee appointed to consider into what department the middle and southern Colonies ought to be divided, brought in their report which was read.

The committee to whom sundry letters from Brigadier Gen. Arnold, Briga-



Brigadier-General Wooster, Major-General Schuyler, and Major-General Lee were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That Major-General Lee be directed immediately to repair to Canada, and take command of the army of the United Colonies in that province.

That Major-General Schuyler be directed to repair, as soon as his health will permit, to New-York, and take the command of the forces and conduct the military operations there; and that the president inform him by express of this arrangement and the reasons that led to it.

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, to supply General Lee with a quantity of suitable cannon not exceeding twelve, and one or more mortars, if to be had, with balls, shells, and other necessities for the siege or assault of Quebec; and that they assist him in forwarding the same with all possible expedition.

That the regiment of Canadians, the raising of which is mentioned in Brigadier-General Arnold's letter of the 12th of January last, to have been put on foot by him, receive the same pay and be subject to the same regulations as the other forces employed in Canada, and be accounted part of the number designed to be raised for that service.

That the appointment of Captain — Ranfalier, to be deputy-mustermaster-general of the forces in Canada, be confirmed.

That the appointment of John Halstead, Esq. to be commissary for the army before Quebec, be confirmed.

That Major-General Schuyler be directed to have provisions stored in proper places near Hudson's river, between Albany and the Highlands, to supply such troops as it may be necessary to call out of the country.

That the offer made by General Schuyler to pay at the rate of four shillings per day, for each of the sleds hired to forward the Pennsylvania and New-Jersey forces in their march to Canada, be complied with.

That the officers in the continental armies be enjoined to use their utmost diligence in preventing every kind of plunder, and that all who shall offend herein be punished according to the strictest discipline.

That the resolves of Congress for encouraging sutlers, to attend the army in Canada, be published, with the information that, hosiery, shoes, coarse linens, soap, rum, sugar, and wine are much wanted there.

That a few artificers, such as armourers, smiths, carpenters, harness-makers and wheel-wrights, with proper persons to superintend them, be forthwith sent to Canada.

That it be recommended to the convention of New-York, that such of the officers, who served faithfully in Canada the last campaign, as are willing to continue there, be preferred in the new levies of the colony of New-York to others.

Resolved, That a committee of three be chosen to prepare instructions for the committee appointed to go to Canada.

The members elected, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Sherman.

Resolved, That this Congress will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports, and the restrictions and regulations of trade, after the first of March next.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to purchase sundry articles of cloathing for the northern army, be directed to contract for good strong shoes for the army in Canada.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee, on the method of subsisting the troops in New-York, &c.

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Resolved, That the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars, be advanced to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, for the support of the troops employed in the defence of that Colony; the said convention or committee of safety, to be accountable for the expenditure thereof, and that an order be drawn on the treasurers for the above sum, in favour of the delegates of that Colony, who are directed to forward the same.

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, to contract with proper persons for supplying the said troops with the rations allowed by Congress, and with fuel and other necessaries, on the most reasonable terms in their power.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

On an account exhibited by the committee of Frederic county, Maryland, to be paid to S. Chase, and W. Paca, Esqrs. the sum of 860.9 dollars, of which 268.4 being for rifles, &c. furnished Captain Cresfap's company of rifle-men, ought to be charged to the said company, and the remainder to the continent.

To Nicholas Hower, for Waggonage, the sum of 74.4 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Daniel Hower.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, February 19, 1776.*

Met according to adjournment, and having attended the oration delivered in honour of General Montgomery, and of those officers and soldiers who magnanimously fought and fell with him, in maintaining the principles of liberty.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, February 20, 1776.*

The convention of New-Jersey having made a new choice of delegates to represent that Colony in Congress, three of said delegates at-

tending, produced their credentials, which were read as follows :

*" In Provincial Convention, New-Jersey, Brunswick, 14th Feb. 1776.*

Resolved, on motion, unanimously, That William Livingston, John De Hart, Richard Smith, John Cooper, and Jonathan Dickenson Sergeant, Esquires, be delegates to represent this province in the Continental Congress, for the space of one year, or until others shall be legally appointed in their stead, and that they or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures which such Congress shall deem necessary; and this province bind themselves to execute, to the utmost of their power, all resolutions which the said Congress may adopt. And further, if the said Congress shall think necessary to adjourn, we do authorise our said delegates to represent and act for this province, in any one Congress to be held by virtue of such adjournments, during their delegation.

A true copy from the minutes,

WILLIAM PATTERSON, Sec."

A letter from General Lee, of the 17th instant, was read.

A memorial from a number of the inhabitants of Northumberland, in the colony of Pennsylvania, with six papers therein enclosed, was presented to Congress and read. Also,

A petition from sundry inhabitants near Pittsburg, was presented and read,

Resolved, That the above memorial and petition be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Paca, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Chase.

Lieutenant Brasher, who had the orders of General Schuyler to conduct a number of Canadian prisoners to New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, having executed his orders, laid his instructions before Congress, which were read. Also Mr. Shallus, quarter-

ter-master of the first Pennsylvania battalion, having had orders to conduct certain prisoners down from Kingston, and having executed his orders, laid his instructions before Congress, which were read,

Resolved, That these be referred to the committee on the prisoners.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to Colonel Maxwell, or order, twenty stand of arms for the use of his battalion, he to be accountable for the same.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the ways and means of procuring cannon, whereupon,

Resolved, That two hundred and fifty, twelve-pounders, sixty, nine-pounders, and sixty-two, four-pounders, be purchased for the use of these Colonies.

That the committee on the ways and means of procuring cannon be empowered to purchase or contract for making the same.

That a new member be added to that committee.

The member chosen, Mr. W. Livingston.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Michael Connolly, expences for waggon-hire, carrying the prisoners baggage from Bethlehem to Reading, and his own expences four days, the sum of 160 dollars.

To Richard Howell, for transportation of powder to Burlington, the sum of 34½ dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Resolved, That Colonel Wayne be directed to march with his battalion to New-York, and put himself under the command of General Lee, or the commanding officer there.

The Congress being informed that two prisoners taken at Chamblee, and who had leave to stay at Newark in the province of New-Jersey, on condition of their making gun locks, for

the use of the United Colonies, are not employed in that work.

Resolved, That the said two prisoners be ordered to Philadelphia, and put under the direction of Mr. Rittenhouse, to carry on the above business.

The Congress being informed that a quantity of powder belonging to the United Colonies was arrived at Brunswick in New-Jersey.

Resolved, That Mr. Lewis, Mr. Alsop, and Mr. P. Livingston, be directed to forward the said powder under a guard, with all possible expedition, to General Washington, for the use of the army under his command.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Monf. La Junesse, for the sum of 250 dollars, for his services in behalf of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow. *Wednesday, February 21, 1776.*

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To — Shallus, for his expences in conducting prisoners from Albany to Trenton, the sum of 17½ dollars.

To Caspar Shaaf, for waggonage, the sum of 104 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to S. Chase, and W. Paca, Esqrs.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

Two letters from General Schuyler of the 10th and 13th instant, being received, were read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

A letter from the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, of the 20th instant, respecting the prisoners at Lancaster, was read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the committee on the prisoners.

The committee on the treasury to whom it was referred to consider the

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numbers and denominations of the bills, &c. brought in their report, which was considered and agreed to as follows :

That the four millions of dollars now to be emitted, consist of the following denominations :

600,000 of $\frac{1}{8}$ of a dol.	100,000
600,000 of $\frac{1}{4}$ do	200,000
600,000 of $\frac{1}{2}$ do	300,000
600,000 of $\frac{2}{3}$ do	400,000
130,436 of 1 do	130,436
130,437 of 2 do	260,874
130,436 of 3 do	391,308
130,435 of 4 do	521,740
65,217 of 5 do	326,085
65,217 of 6 do	391,302
65,217 of 7 do	456,519
65,217 of 8 do	521,736

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That the plates engraved for the two former emissions, be used in the new emission of the bills from one to eight dollars inclusive, and that those bills be expressed in the following words :

No.                      Dollars.

This bill entitles the bearer to receive Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a resolution of Congress, passed at Philadelphia, February 17, 1776.

That the said bills be signed by two signers, and each different denomination numbered from No. 1 progressively.

That one plate with proper devices be engraved for the smaller bills now to be emitted, under the value of one dollar.

That the form of the bills be as follows :

One                      of a dollar, according to a resolution of Congress passed at Philadelphia, February 17, 1776.

That each of these bills be signed by one signer only, and that each different denomination be numbered from No. 1 progressively, as aforesaid.

That Michael Hillegas, Richard

Bache, and Stephen Paschall, Esqrs. be appointed and authorized to inspect the press.

That before they enter upon their office, they shall respectively take an oath or affirmation to be administered to them by any magistrate, " well and faithfully to execute the trust reposed in them by a resolution of Congress, as inspectors of the press, according to the best of their skill and judgment." A certificate of which oath or affirmation shall be delivered to the committee on the treasury.

That each of the said inspectors respectively shall be allowed two dollars a day for their services, while they shall be employed in inspecting the press, in the execution of said trust.

Resolved, That the committee on the treasury be directed to have the foregoing resolutions carried into execution with all convenient dispatch.

The committee for receiving the applications for officers in the continental army reported, that they have nominated Mr. Lewis Durham for surgeon to the third battalion now raising in the colony of New Jersey, and recommend him to the Congress for appointment to the said office.

Resolved, That the report be agreed to, and that a commission be granted to Mr. Lewis Durham accordingly.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, February 22, 1776.

Two letters from General Washington, both of the 9th of this month, being received and read,

Resolved, That the said letters be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

Accordingly the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the letters just received from General Washington, and after some time the president



dent resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee had taken into consideration the letters referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take into their farther consideration the letters from General Washington.

Resolved, That the march of the New-Jersey battalion of militia to New-York be countermanded.

Resolved, That orders issue to quicken Colonel Wayne in getting his battalion ready; and that, as fast as he can get a company properly equipped, he cause it immediately to march to New-York.

Resolved, That the president be directed to write to the convention of New-York, and desire them to inform Congress what progress they have made in raising the four battalions recommended to be raised in that Colony for the defence of the same. Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, February 23, 1776*

Colonel Braxton, a delegate from Virginia attending, produced the credentials of his appointment, which were read as follows:

*Virginia, in Convention, December 15, 1775.*

The convention, according to the order of the day, proceeded to the appointment of a delegate to represent this Colony in the general congress, in the room of the late Honourable Peyton Randolph, Esq; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the delegate to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot-box, Mr. Thomas Ludwell Lee, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Digges, Mr. William Cabell, and Mr. Carter of Lancaster were appointed a committee to examine the ballot-box, and report on whom the majority fell, and it appearing from their report, that there was a major-

ity of the whole convention in favour of Carter Braxton, Esq.

Resolved, Therefore that the said Carter Braxton, Esq; be appointed a delegate to represent this Colony in the room of the late Honourable Peyton Randolph, Esq;

JOHN FAZEWELL, Cl. of Convention.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to return to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, the arms borrowed of them for the use of the continent.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Francis Daimon, for translating into French the rules and articles for the better regulating the continental troops, the sum of 13½ dollars.

To Monfr. Mesplet for printing the military rules, and French letters to the inhabitants of Canada, the sum of 44 dollars.

To Colonel Harrison, for expences of himself, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Allen, on their journey to New-York, the sum of 150.9 dollars.

To Jeremiah Traxler, for provisions, &c. for Indians who were in Philadelphia in December last, the sum of 40.8 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Mr. Kachlein.

To sundry persons for rifles furnished Captain Morgan's company, the sum of 118.3 dollars, which ought to be paid to Colonel Nelson, and charged to the said company.

To Clement Biddle, for shot-pouches, powder-horns, and bullet-moulds, purchased by him for the Canada regiment, the sum of 1169.3 dollars.

To sundry persons for blankets supplied to Captain Price's company, the sum of 32.9 dollars; and the same ought to be paid to George Read, Esq;

To Captain Little, for provisions for guards attending Captain Campbell, the sum of 9.5 dollars.

To Christian Rhorbec for necessaries furnished

furnished to several prisoners of the 7th and 26th regiments, the sum of 9.4 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Adam Kimmel.

To Henry Shits, for rifles, &c. furnished to Captain Stephenson's company the sum of 77.6 dollars, to be charged to the said company.

To Adam Ebraher, for attending several French noblesse, from Albany to Bristol, the sum of 32 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to contract for the making of muskets and bayonets for the use of the United Colonies, and to consider of farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of fire arms in all parts of the United Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Huntington, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Morris.

Resolved, That the letter of Mr. Christopher Liffingwell, dated the 29th of November 1775, with sundry papers relating to the cargo of the brig Nancy, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Huntington and Mr. Gerry.

Resolved, That the secret committee be empowered for the purpose of procuring arms and ammunition, to export the produce of these Colonies, equal to the amount of that by them exposed in two vessels lately taken by the enemy.

Resolved, That the committee, for superintending the treasury, be authorized to employ one or more clerks for stating, keeping, and liquidating the public accounts under their direction, and to provide books, and a suitable office for that purpose.

That they have power to call upon the different committees of Congress, assemblies, conventions, councils,

or committees of safety, continental officers, and private persons, who have been or shall be intrusted with public money, for their accounts and vouchers, and for such other materials and information, as the said committee on the treasury shall judge to be useful, in stating, checking, and auditing the public accounts.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, councils, or committees of safety, and committees of correspondence and inspection in the United Colonies, to exert themselves in devising farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of salt-petre, and of introducing that manufacture into private families.

That it be recommended to the several assemblies and conventions in the United Colonies, that they immediately establish public works in each and every county, in their respective Colonies, at the expence of such Colonies, for the manufacture of salt-petre, and appoint committees of their own members immediately to set up such manufactures.

That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions, councils or committees of safety, of every Colony forthwith to erect powder mills in their respective Colonies, and appoint committees to build such mills, and procure persons well skilled in the manufacture of powder, at the expence of such Colonies.

That a committee of this Congress to consist of one member from each Colony be appointed to consider of further ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufactures of salt-petre, sulphur and powder in these Colonies, and to correspond with the several assemblies and conventions, and councils or committees of safety in the several Colonies, that Congress may be, from time to time, truly informed of the progress made in these manufactures.

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The members chosen, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Paine, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Huntington, Mr. L. Morris, Mr. Sergeant, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Read, Mr. Paca, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Hewes, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Bullock.

Ordered, That the above resolutions respecting salt-petre &c. be published.

It being represented that Captain Harman has enlisted into his company and carried with him to Canada, thirteen servants without the consent of their masters.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into this matter, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Willing, and Mr. Wythe,

Resolved, That this Congress will on Monday next resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the letters from General Washington, &c.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, February 26, 1776.*

A letter from General Lee, dated 22d Instant, was read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen Mr. McKean, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. L. Morris.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Carpenter Wharton for the sum of 6000 dollars, he to be accountable.

A petition from Lieutenant Jocelyn Feltham of the 26th regiment, who was taken prisoner at Ticonderoga was presented and read, praying for leave to go to Europe for the recovery of his health.

Resolved, That the prayer of his petition be granted.

A representation from the committee of inspection and observation of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, relative to vessels loading with produce for Great-Britain, Ireland,

and the British West-Indies, was presented to Congress, and read, whereupon

Resolved, That no vessel loading for Great-Britain, Ireland, or the British West-Indies, be permitted to sail until the further order of Congress; and that it be recommended to the different committees of inspection and observation to see that this resolution be carried into execution.

Ordered, That the above resolve be published.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to examine and report the numbers and circumstances of the permits, and the destination of the vessels, to which such permits have been granted, for exporting the produce of the Colonies in consequence of the importation of ammunition and warlike stores; and that the representation of the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia on this subject be referred to the said committee.

The members chosen Mr. Duane, Mr. Chafe, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Livingston, and Mr. Wythe.

A letter from the convention of New-Jersey, dated February 24th was read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the committee to whom the letter from General Lee, was this morning committed.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the delegates of Maryland for the sum of twenty-two thousand dollars, to be by them exchanged for gold and silver and paid back into the treasury.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, February 27, 1776.*

Resolved, That Monf. Regonville, be permitted to go to Bristol and spend a week with his relations there, and that, after that, he return to Philadelphia.

Resolved, That the sum of 100 dol-

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dollars be paid to Monf. Dugan for his fervices in the caufe of the United Colonies in Canada, and that it be recommended to the commanding officer of the forces of the United Colonies in that Province, to advance him to a poft in the army fuitable to his merit and fervices.

The committee to whom the letters from Christopher Leffingwell and others concerning the Brigantine Nancy commanded by Thomas Davis and her cargo were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into confideration.

Resolved, That the cafe of the faid brigantine and cargo, pertaineth to the judicature eftablifhed in the Colony of Connecticut for hearing and determining matters of the fame kind.

The Congress taking into confideration the report of the committee appointed to confider into what department the middle and fouthern Colonies ought to be formed.

Resolved, That New-York, New-Jerfey, Pennsylvania, the Lower Counties on Delaware, and Maryland, be put into one department under the command of one Major General, and two Brigadiers General, with proper ftaff.

That Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia be put into one other department, under the command of one major general, and three brigadiers general, with proper ftaff.

That Friday next be affigned for the election of major general, brigadiers general, and ftaff officers in the foregoing departments.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the convention of New-Jerfey, to have the cargo of the transport Blue Mountain Valley landed, and fecured in fome fafe place till further orders of Congress.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, February 28, 1776.*

Resolved, That General Lee be directed not to proceed to Canada, until he receive further orders from Congress.

The committee to whom the letters from General Lee and the convention of New-Jerfey were referred, brought in their report which was read.

Resolved, That the confideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

Resolved, That the fecret committee be directed to repay to the delegates of North-Carolina, the four hundred weight of powder borrowed of that Colony.

The committee on prifoners, to whom the letter from the committee of fafety of Pennsylvania was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into confideration, and thereupon,

Resolved, That the committee of infpection and obfervation, for the county of Berks in Pennsylvania, be authorifed and requested to contract upon reasonable terms for the fubfiftence of fuch of the prifoners now in Reading, as are not fupplied by Mr. Franks, together with the women and children belonging to all the prifoners there, and for fupplying them with fire-wood and other things abfolutely neceffary for their fupport.

That the committee of infpection and obfervation for the counties, diftricts, or towns affigned for the refidence of prifoners, be impowered to fuperintend their conduct, and in cafes of grofs mifbehaviour to confine them, and report to Congress the proceedings had on fuch occafions.

Resolved, That the committee of fafety of Pennsylvania, agreeable to the offer made by them of their fervice, of which Congress have a proper fenfe, be authorifed to diftribute the officers, who are prifoners in Lancafter, in fuch places within the province of Pennsylvania, as to that committee fhall feem moft proper; taking their parole, which if they



refuse to give, the said committee are impowered and directed to confine them; and that in executing this resolve, the said committee have regard to the resolutions heretofore made by Congress, with respect to prisoners and their residence.

A petition of Anthony Marmajou, master and owner of the brig Little Polly of the island of Martinique, was presented to Congress and read, whereupon,

Resolved, That Monsieur Marmajou be permitted to load the Brigantine Little Polly, with the produce of these Colonies (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and lumber for making casks excepted) and export the same to Martinique.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Mr. J. Mease, for the sum of twenty thousand dollars, he to be accountable.

The committee to whom the letters from General Schuyler, dated the 10th and 13th of February, and the papers therein mentioned were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That a sufficient quantity of steel be sent to Gen. Schuyler, or the commanding officers at Albany, for the armourers and the blacksmiths who are appointed to go and work for the Indians, and that the delegates of New-Jersey be desired to provide and forward the same.

That an account of the money paid to the Pennsylvania troops, who have marched to Canada, be sent to Gen. Schuyler.

That the Deputy-Muster-Master-General, Gunning Bedford, Esq; be directed to repair to his post forthwith in the northern army in Canada, and that he muster the troops once in every month, and make returns to Congress and the commanding officer.

That the orders given by General Schuyler, in his letter of the 12th

instant, to Lieut. Colonel Warner be approved.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, February 29, 1776.*

The colony of New-Hampshire having appointed delegates for the present year, William Whipple, Esq; one of the said delegates attended and produced the credentials of their appointments, which were read as follows:

*" Colony of New-Hampshire, in the House of Representatives, Jan. 23, 1776.*

*" Voted, That Josiah Bartlett, John Langdon, and William Whipple, Esqrs. be and hereby are appointed delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress at Philadelphia, for the term of one year from this time, any one of them in the absence of the others to have full power to represent this Colony, and that not more than two of them attend at one time.*

Sent up for concurrence,

P. WHITE, Speaker.

*In Council, eodem die.*

Read and concurred.

E. THOMPSON, Secretary.

A true copy from the journal of council.

Attest. E. THOMPSON, Secretary."

A letter of the 14th from General Washington, inclosing a letter from Lord Drummond to Gen. Robinson, and sundry other papers, was read.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the letter from General Washington of the 9th instant, and the trade of the Colonies after the 1st of March, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into

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into farther consideration the letter from General Washington, and the trade of the Colonies.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, March 1, 1776.*

A letter from the committee of safety of New-Hampshire, with a petition from the said Colony, and sundry other papers were read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Franklin.

A petition from the inhabitants of Falmouth being presented was read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Read, and Mr. Paca.

A letter from J. Mease, commissary, with sundry queries to which he requests the answers of Congress, that he may know how to conduct in the business intrusted to him, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Hewes.

A memorial of the merchants, traders, and others, of the city of Philadelphia, was presented and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee of the whole.

The general assembly of Massachusetts-Bay having transmitted to Congress a state of the accounts of their Colony against the continent.

Resolved, That they be referred for liquidation to the committee of claims.

Resolved, That an addition of thirty-four dollars a month be added to the pay of Joseph Read, Esq; secretary to General Washington, on account of the extraordinary services at present attending that office, by reason of the General's direction of the naval department.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into

consideration the letter of General Washington of the 14th, with the papers enclosed.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to treat with the owners of some medicines lately imported, and to purchase the same on the most reasonable terms for the use of the continent.

Resolved, That Major-Gen. Lee be appointed to take the command of the continental forces in the southern department.

The Congress proceeded to the election of six brigadier-generals, and the ballots being delivered in and examined the following gentlemen were chosen.

John Armstrong, Esq; William Thompson, Esq; Andrew Lewis, Esq; James Moore, Esq; the Right Honourable William, Earl of Stirling; Robert Howe, Esq;

Resolved, That Brigadier-General Armstrong be directed to repair to South-Carolina, Brigadiers Lewis and Howe to Virginia, and Brigadier Moore to North-Carolina, and to take the command of the forces in those respective Colonies, until they receive further orders from Congress, or a superior officer.

Resolved, That Brigadier-General Thompson be directed to repair to New-York.

The orders of the day being postponed,

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, March 4, 1776.*

Resolved, That Mr. Aliop be appointed a member of the committee of claims in the room of Mr. Lewis who is absent, and Mr. Whipple in the room of Mr. Bartlett, who desires to be excused from that service.

Resolved, That in case of the absence of any standing member of the committee of claims, the delegates of the Colony to which he belongs, be impowered to nominate one of their number to act in the stead of the absent member, till his return.

Sundry

Sundry letters and papers were received and read, viz.

A letter from the convention of New-York, of 28th February inclosing a recommendation of gentlemen for field officers of the four battalions ordered to be raised in that Colony.

A memorial from sundry merchants of Montreal.

A resolution of the committee of inspection for the county of Accomac.

Two letters from Brigadier-General Wooster of the 11th and 13th Feb. with seven papers enclosed.

Two from Brigadier-General Arnold, of the 1st and 12th of February.

Four from General Schuyler of the 15th, 20th, 21st, and 23d of the same month.

One from General Lee of the 29th.

One from the convention of New-Hampshire, of the 8th.

And one from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the memorial from the merchants of Montreal, be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. R. Morris, and Mr. Tilghman.

That the resolution from the committee of Accomac, be referred to the committee of the whole Congress.

That the letters from Major-Generals Lee and Schuyler, and from Brigadier Generals Wooster and Arnold be referred to the committee appointed to prepare instructions for the commissioners to Canada.

That the other letters be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to examine and report the number and circumstances of the permits granted for exporting produce, &c. brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That the restraint be

taken off, which by a resolve of the 26th of last month was laid upon vessels loading or loaded with produce for Great-Britain, Ireland or the British West-Indies, in consequence of permissions granted for arms and ammunition imported into these Colonies.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed with all possible expedition to send, under a guard, ten tons of powder to Cambridge for the use of the army under the command of General Washington.

The committee to whom the memorial from sundry inhabitants of Northumberland, and the petition from the inhabitants near Pittsburgh were referred, brought in their report which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

Resolved, That Colonel Belete, Major Longevil, and Captain Lotiniere; three of the Canadian prisoners who are at Bristol in Pennsylvania, be permitted to come to Philadelphia, to confer with the committee on prisoners.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, March 5, 1776.*

Two letters from General Schuyler of the 26th and 27th February, with four papers inclosed, among which a letter from James Deane to General Schuyler of the 24th of the same month.

Resolved, That the letter from James Deane be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. W. Livingston.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the memorial from the inhabitants of Northumberland, &c. whereupon,

Resolved, As the said memorial relates merely to disputes between the

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memorialists and other inhabitants of said county, and to complaints against justices of the peace of the said county, and as the common courts of judicature, and especially the legislature of the colony of Pennsylvania are altogether competent for remedying the grievances complained of, that the said memorial with the papers therewith delivered, be transmitted to the assembly of said Colony.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the letter from General Washington of the 14th of February, and the papers inclosed, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the letter and papers to them referred, but have come to no resolution thereon.

Resolved, That the letter from General Washington, so far as it has not been considered by the committee of the whole, be referred to the committee, to whom his other letters of the 24th and 30th of January were referred.

The order of the day being renewed

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to morrow.

*Wednesday, March 6, 1776.*

A letter from General Washington of the 26th February was read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the committee to whom his other letters are referred.

A letter from J. Palmer, inclosing a report of a committee of the general assembly of Massachusetts-Bay respecting lead, was read.

Resolved, That the committee appointed on the 31st of July last, to enquire in all the Colonies after virgin-lead, leaden ore, and the best method of collecting, smelting, and refining it, and also the cheapest and easiest methods of making salt in these Colonies, be discharged, and that the business of the said committee be referred to the committee appointed

on the 23d of February last, to consider of farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of salt-petre, &c.

Resolved, That the letter from J. Palmer with the inclosed report be referred to the last mentioned committee.

A letter from General Washington dated 18th and 21st of February last, inclosing the proceedings of a council of war, was read.

Resolved, That Brigadier-General Thomas be appointed to command the forces in Canada, and that General Washington be directed to order him immediately to repair to that province.

Resolved, That Brigadier-General Thomas be promoted to the rank of a Major-General, and that a commission be sent to him accordingly.

Ordered, That the president acquaint General Washington by express of this arrangement.

Resolved, As sundry members of the marine committee are absent, that their places be supplied by Mr. Huntingdon for Connecticut; Mr. Sergeant for New-Jersey; Mr. Harrison for Virginia; and Mr. E. Rutledge for South-Carolina.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to send five tons of powder to New-York for the use of the continental troops there, and five tons of powder to the Southern Department for the use of the troops in said Department.

That the said committee be directed to return to the colony of Maryland the powder borrowed by Mr. Harrison, and to the colony of New-York, and to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania the powder borrowed of them.

That the said committee be directed to deliver to the delegates of the Delaware government one ton of powder, for which they are to be accountable, and to the delegates of New-



New-Jersey one ton of powder, for which that Colony to be accountable.

Resolved, That the president inform General Schuyler, that the Congress judge it necessary he should remain at Albany to make the proper arrangements respecting the army destined for Canada, and therefore that he establish his head-quarters at Albany until further orders.

Resolved, That Thomas Bullet, Esq; be appointed deputy-adjutant-general in the Southern Department, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to Colonel Wayne the arms in their possession, for the use of his battalion, retaining so many as will be necessary for the guard that is to attend the powder to Cambridge.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, March 7, 1776.*

A letter from General Washington of the 9th of February, and a letter from General Schuyler of the 23d of the same month, were received and read.

Resolved, That an order for one hundred thousand dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the delegates of Connecticut, in part of the money advanced by said Colony on account of the continent; and that the said Colony be desired to send forward their accounts with proper vouchers, in order for liquidation and payment.

The Congress being informed that Isaac Melchior, on the evening of Saturday last, treated the president of this Congress with great rudeness, and made use of several disrespectful and contemptuous expressions towards him and this Congress.

Ordered, That the said Isaac Melchior attend the Congress to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock to answer for his conduct.

Resolved, That Edward Hand, Esq; be promoted to be colonel of

the battalion of rifle-men in the army at Cambridge, and James Chambers, Esq; to be lieutenant-colonel of the same.

That William Winds, Esq; be promoted to be colonel of the first New-Jersey battalion, and that Matthias Ogden, Esq; be appointed lieutenant-colonel of the same.

Resolved, That the committee on qualifications be directed to supply the first and third New-Jersey battalions with proper medicine chests and instruments.

A letter from Lord Stirling, with affidavits, relative to the capture of the Amboy packet-boat, was laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the committee to whom the letters from General Washington were referred.

The committee, to whom the letter from the committee of safety of New Hampshire was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Hall and Sellers, for printing the continental bills of credit, the sum of 1735.4 dollars.

To Frederick Becking, for 102 reams of paper for the continental bills of credit, the sum of 707.2 dollars.

To the estate of David Hall, deceased, for stationary for the service of Congress, the sum of 50.6 dollars.

To Robert Erwin, for twenty cords of wood, the sum of 80 dollars.

To Wallore Meng, for canteen straps, the sum of 84.3 dollars.

To Jared Tracey, for carrying money from Philadelphia to Cambridge, the sum of 36 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Josiah Bartlett, Esq.

To sundries on certificates for provisions furnished several rifle companies, the sum of 35.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Alsop, Esq.

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To Thomas Apty, for boarding several prisoners taken from on board the Rebecca and Ann, the sum of 54.7 dollars.

To Robert Erwin, for waggonage, the sum of 637.7 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for electing the field officers of the four battalions ordered to be raised in the colony of New-York.

The order of the day being renewed. Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, March 8, 1776.*

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the election of field officers of the four battalions, ordered to be raised in the colony of New-York for the defence of the said colony, and the ballots being taken, the following gentlemen were chosen: Alexander M'Dougal, Esq; colonel of the 1st battalion; Herman Zedwitz, Esq; lieutenant-colonel; Joseph Benedict, Esq; major. James Clinton, Esq; colonel of the 2d battalion; Henry B. Livingston, Esq; lieutenant-colonel; Peter P. Schuyler, Esq; major. Frederick Wiefenfels, Esq; lieutenant-colonel of the 3d battalion; John Fisher, Esq; major. Cornelius D. Wynkoop, Esq; colonel of the 4th battalion; Philip Courtlandt, Esq; lieutenant-colonel; John Nicholson, Esq; major.

The Congress being informed that Mr. Melchior was attending agreeable to the order of yesterday:

Ordered, That he be called in.

Mr. Melchior appearing, the particulars of the charge were repeated to him, and on his assuring the house of his not remembering his having behaved with the disrespect mentioned, owing to the particular circumstances he happened to be under, and asking pardon of the Congress and President for his indecent behaviour,

Ordered, That in consideration of Mr. Melchior's former services and his present concessions, he be dismissed from farther attendance.

The committee to whom the letters from Major General Lee, Major General Schuyler, Brigadier General Wooster, and Brigadier-General Arnold were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That the commissioners appointed to go to Canada, be desired to inquire into the cause of the imprisonment of the officers of militia in that country and others, and take such measures in concert with the commanding officer of the continental forces there, for their enlargement or confinement, as are consistent with the principles of justice and the safety of the United Colonies.

That the provisions made by General Lee and General Schuyler to supply the army in Canada with pork, the direction given by General Lee to have wheat ground into flour for their use, and his contract with the company of carpenters be approved; and that Mr. Peter Zabriskie, of Hackinsack, be employed to transport the pork, to be procured in New-Jersey, to Hudson's river, according to General Schuyler's desire.

That when the articles specified, in the rations allowed to the prisoners of war, cannot be procured, the persons who supply them with other provisions be intitled to eight-pence, New-York currency, or  $\frac{1}{12}$  of a dollar per day for every prisoner.

That Indians be not employed as soldiers in the armies of the United Colonies, before the tribes, to which they belong, shall in a national council, held in the customary manner, have consented thereunto, nor then without express approbation of Congress.

That General Schuyler be directed to provide such a number of batteaus for the service in Canada, as shall be sufficient for it.

That General Schuyler be desired to purchase the cloth, which Mr. Henry of Albany hath for tents.

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Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire and report the best ways and means of supplying the army in Canada with provisions and necessaries.

The members chosen, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Wolcott, and Mr. L. Morris.

Resolved, That an order for 10,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the committee appointed to contract for the making of muskets, the said committee to be accountable.

A letter from Colonel Hazen, of the 18th of February last, inclosing an account and estimate of the losses he has sustained, was received and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, and Mr. S. Adams, who are directed to examine the said account, and report upon the several articles.

A letter from Governor Trumbull, of the 2d, and a letter from General Lee, of the 5th, being received, were read.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, March 9, 1776.*

Resolved, That a letter be written to General Washington, desiring him to send Captain Connor, of the rifle battalion to Philadelphia, the Congress having occasion to employ him in the Southern Department.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions for the commissioners going to Canada, brought in a draught which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

Two petitions, one from Stephen Decatur, master of the schooner L'Esperience, and one from John Baptisto Hugonence, master of the Tartar the Marc Anthony, were presented to Congress and read, praying leave to export certain species of produce, on conditions specified in their petitions.

Resolved, That the prayer of said petitions be granted.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of the Colonies in the Southern Department.

The members chosen, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jay, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Sergeant, and Mr. Sherman.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be appointed and authorized to sign and number the bills of credit of four millions of dollars, now emitting, viz.

Samuel Morris, John Kaighn, Nicholas Garrison, Joseph Watkins, Anthony Morris, Frederic Kuhl, Matthew Clarkson, John Ord, William Webb, Isaac Hazlehurst, Thomas Morris, Mordecai Lewis, Cornelius Barnes, Jonathan B. Smith, Robert Tuckniss, Thomas Coombe, Daniel Clymer, George Campbell, Joseph Parker, Robert Evans, Adam Hubly, Joel Evans, John Mease, John Purviance, Robert Hazlehurst, Walter Shee, Joseph Redman, Phineas Bond, William Masters, John Salter, John Howard, Thomas Leech, Thomas Smith, Philip Kinsey, Robert Roberts, Isaac Howell, James Milligan, Tench Tilghman, Joseph Bullock, David Duncan, John Shaw, jun. James Johnson, Benjamin Brannan, Samuel Sellers, Isaac Pearson, John Sellers, Benjamin Jacobs, Israel Wheeler, Josiah Hewes, Andrew Tybout, George Douglass, Peter Stretch, Samuel C. Morris, Samuel Hillegas, Nathan Sellers, George Gray, jun. James Ash, Samuel Massey, John Williams, and William Coats.

Resolved, That before the signers enter upon their office, they shall respectively take an oath or affirmation before any magistrate, which shall be filed with the committee of treasury, to the following effect; that they shall well and truly sign and number all the bills to be delivered to them by the inspectors of the press appointed by the Congress, and the same so signed and numbered, shall deli-

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deliver or cause to be delivered to the continental treasurers, or one of them.

And for avoiding the dangers from fire, robbery, or negligence.

Resolved, That the inspectors of the press shall not deliver to any class of signers more than two parcels of two hundred sheets each, to be in their hands at any one time.

Resolved, That no oath by way of test be imposed upon, exacted, or required of any of the inhabitants of these Colonies, by any military officers.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to deliver one ton of powder to the delegates of Maryland, for the public service in that Colony.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday next.

*Monday, March 11; 1776.*

A letter from Lord Stirling of the 8th inclosing three papers; and,

A letter of the convention of New-York of the 7th, inclosing an application from Patrick Sinclair, a prisoner, for leave to return to Europe, were laid before Congress and read.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter from the convention of New-York, and the application of Mr. Sinclair.

Resolved, That Patrick Sinclair be allowed to return to Europe.

Resolved, That an order for 2500 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. Alsop, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Sherman, to enable them to pay for the shoes purchased by them for the Northern army.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with General Lee, respecting the ways and means of defending New-York.

The members chosen, Mr. R. Lee, Mr. Whipple, and Mr. Rutledge.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Benjamin Town, for 789 canteens, the sum of 341.9 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That the committee on qualifications be directed to provide six medicine chests for the six Virginia battalions.

The Congress took into consideration the instructions to the commissioners going to Canada, and having spent some time thereon,

Resolved, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, March 12, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of James Mease commissary, he to be accountable.

A petition from Edmund Custis, and a letter from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, were presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the committee of the whole Congress.

A letter from sundry inhabitants of Westmoreland, of the 6th instant, was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from Dr. Hall Jackson, was presented to Congress and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Congress then returned the consideration of the instructions to the commissioners going to Canada, and after some time spent thereon.

Resolved, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The committee to whom the letter from Colonel Moses Hazen, and the report of persons appointed to state the account of losses and damages sustained by him in Canada were referred, brought in their report, which was read as follows.

" It appears to your committee that the loss and damages sustained by Co o-



nel Hazen in Canada, have not been estimated with sufficient accuracy; that some of the articles enumerated in the inventory are presumed to be over-rated, the quantities of several others reducible to exactness in number, weight or measure, are not ascertained; and the reasons for the knowledge or belief of any of them by the witnesses, are not explicit enough in their examinations; that although the grain, grass, and hay mentioned in the account are admitted by Col. Hazen, in his letter, to have been partly destroyed by the ministerial troops, the whole value is extended; that the estimates of the crops are so general, it cannot be discovered by what rule they were formed, or to what standard adjusted; that the damage done to the dwelling house, stone-house, out-houses, barn, and farms, are not particularised or specified; that a considerable part of what a re-imbursement is claimed for, is household-furniture, wearing-apparel, tools, utensils, cables and anchors, suggested to have been plundered by the troops of the United Colonies and Canadians, who joined them, and your committee believe that no reparation of the like kind hath yet been made by Congress; and that the profit which might have been made of the mills and houses, if the owner had not been deprived of the use of them, being merely contingent and conjectural, are such as have not usually been made good in similar cases." Whereupon,

Resolved, That the commissioners who are going to Canada be desired to appoint proper persons to examine, state, and settle an account of the loss and damage Colonel Hazen hath sustained in his property and possessions in Canada, by the forces of the United Colonies, and to report the same, with any special matters they may think fit, to Congress; annexing to their reports, the estimates, examinations of the witnesses, and other papers relative thereto.

Resolved, That if any of the gentlemen appointed field-officers in the four battalions raising in New-York, for the defence of that Colony, are provided for in Canada, they be directed to continue there, exercising the offices to which they are appointed, and that others be elected in their room in the four battalions aforesaid; and that such of them as are not provided for in Canada, be directed immediately to repair to their respective battalions.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, March 13, 1776.*

A letter from the committee of Essex in New-Jersey, of the 7th, and a letter from Captain J. Macpherson of the 12th were laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Samuel Fairlamb, contractor for supplying Col. Wayne's battalion with rations, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That the bills drawn by the treasurers of North-Carolina, for the use of the continental troops in that Colony be paid.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to supply the colony of Maryland with 500lb. of powder, for the use of the inhabitants of Cecil county.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to enquire and report the best ways and means of raising the necessary supplies to defray the expences of the war for the present year, over and above the emission of bills of credit.

The members chosen, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Duane, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Gerry, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Wythe,

The committee of claims reported that there is due.

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ral Montgomery, the sum of 94.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Dr. Franklin.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The committee to whom the memorial from the Indian traders at Montreal was referred, brought in their report.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the memorial from the merchants, traders, and others, inhabitants of Philadelphia, the memorial of Edmund Cuffis, the letters from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, the letters from General Washington, and the state of the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee have had under consideration the matters referred to them, but not having come to any resolution desired him to move for leave to sit again:

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take into their farther consideration the matters heretofore referred to them.

Mr. W. Livingston moved for leave to bring in a resolution for appointing a fast, which was granted.

Resolved; That the marine committee be empowered to purchase the armed vessel now in the river Delaware, on the most reasonable terms, for the service of the continent, and that her destination be left to the said committee.

Resolved, That the expences of the horses of aids de camp, when travelling in the public service, be charged to the account of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, March 14, 1776.*

The committee appointed to confer with General Lee, respecting the defence of New-York, brought in their report which was read. Whereupon.

Resolved, That eight thousand

men be ordered for the defence of the colony of New-York.

Resolved; That orders issue to Colonel Irwine, Colonel Shee, and Colonel Magaw, of the Pennsylvania troops, and to Colonel Dayton of the New-Jersey troops, to march immediately with their respective battalions to New-York, and put themselves under the direction of the commanding officer there.

A letter from General Prescott of the 14th, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the committee on prisoners be directed to confer with General Prescott on the subject of the letter and report to Congress.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, and committees or councils of safety, of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective Colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of America, or who have not associated, and shall refuse to associate to defend by arms these United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the British fleets and armies; and to apply the arms taken from such persons in each respective Colony, in the first place, to the arming the continental troops raised in said Colony, in the next, to the arming such troops as are raised by the Colony for its own defence, and the residue to be applied to the arming the associators; that the arms when taken be appraised by indifferent persons, and such as are applied to the arming the continental troops be paid for by Congress, and the residue by the respective assemblies, conventions, or councils or committees of safety:

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be transmitted by the delegates of each Colony to their respective assemblies, conventions, or councils or committees of safety.

The committee of claims reported that there is due. To

To William Hencher, for waggon hire in conveying Captain Steven-son's baggage, &c. to Cambridge, the sum of 58.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Moses Hunter.

To Rachel Stille, for boarding several officers prisoners to the 8th of March instant, the sum of 224.7 dollars.

To Joseph Fineur, for five hundred and eleven tin cartouch boxes, the sum of 221.4 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, March 15, 1776.*

Sundry letters being received were laid before Congress and read, viz,

One from General Washington of the 7th, with two papers enclosed, with a number of intercepted letters.

Two from Lord Stirling of the 12th and 13th.

One from Lieutenant-Colonel Allen of the 13th.

One from the convention of New-York; and,

One from General Schuyler of the 6th.

Resolved, That the expences of the horses of general officers, when travelling in the service of the continent, be defrayed by the United Colonies.

Resolved, That four muskets and bayonets be lent to the delegates of Virginia for the use of the guards that accompany the powder sent to that Colony.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of New-York, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported that the committee have come to certain resolutions, which they directed him to lay before Congress, which being done.

Resolved, That Captain Nelson with his rifle company be directed

immediately to repair to New-York.

Resolved, That the Governor of Connecticut, the conventions or councils or committees of safety of New-York and New-Jersey be requested to hold their militia in readiness to march in such numbers and at such times for the defence of New-York, as the continental commander at New-York shall desire; and that the pay of the militias called to the defence of New-York be the same as that of the continental troops raised and employed in the middle department, to commence from the time they begin their march.

Resolved, That Lord Sterling be directed to order the troops destined for Canada to proceed on their march, agreeable to their former orders.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, March 16, 1776.*

A letter from Lord Stirling of the 14th, inclosing a copy of general orders for the defence of New-York was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That a letter be written to Lord Stirling, directing him immediately to send forward the powder destined for Cambridge, unless he has received express advice from General Washington, that the enemy's fleet and army have sailed out of the harbour of Boston.

Resolved, That the account of Mr. Price of Canada be referred to the committee of claims.

A petition from Coquataginta or Captain White Eyes, was presented to Congress and read,

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. L. Morris, Mr. Wilson, Mr. R. H. Lee.

Resolved, That Captain Duncan Campbell, a prisoner at Lancaster, be permitted to come to Philadelphia to meet his wife and children, and there reside till further orders.

Mr.

Mr. W. Livingston, pursuant to leave granted, brought in a resolution for appointing a fast, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows :

In times of impending calamity and distress : when the Liberties of America are imminently endangered by the secret machinations and open assaults of an insidious and vindictive administration, it becomes the indispensable duty of these, hitherto free and happy Colonies, with true penitence of heart, and the most reverent devotion, publickly to acknowledge the over-ruling providence of God : to confess and deplore our offences against him ; and to supplicate his interposition for averting the threatened danger, and prospering our strenuous efforts in the cause of freedom, virtue, and posterity.

The Congress, therefore, considering the warlike preparations of the British ministry to subvert our invaluable rights and privileges, and to reduce us by fire and sword, by the savages of the wilderness, and our own domestics, to the most abject and ignominious bondage : desirous, at the same time, to have people of all ranks and degrees, duly impressed with a solemn sense of God's superintending providence, and of their duty, devoutly to rely in all their lawful enterprizes on his aid and direction——do earnestly recommend, that Friday, the 17th day of May next, be observed by the said Colonies as a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer ; that we may with united hearts confess and bewail our manifold sins and transgressions, and by a sincere repentance and amendment of life, appease his righteous displeasure, and through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, obtain his pardon and forgiveness ; humbly imploring his assistance to frustrate the cruel purposes of our unnatural enemies ; and by inclining their hearts to justice and benevolence, prevent the further ef-

fusion of kindred blood. But if, continuing deaf to the voice of reason and humanity, and inflexibly bent on desolation and war, they constrain us to repel their hostile invasions by open resistance, that it may please the Lord of Hosts, the God of Armies, to animate our officers and soldiers with invincible fortitude, to guard and protect them in the day of battle, and to crown the continental arms by sea and land with victory and success : earnestly beseeching him to bless our civil rulers, and the representatives of the people, in their several assemblies and conventions ; to preserve and strengthen their union, to inspire them with an ardent disinterested love of their country : to give wisdom and stability to their councils ; and direct them to the most efficacious measures for establishing the rights of America on the most honourable and permanent basis——that he would be graciously pleased to bless all his people in these Colonies with health and plenty, and grant that a spirit of incorruptible patriotism, and of pure undefiled religion, may universally prevail ; and this continent be speedily restored to the blessings of peace and liberty, and enabled to transmit them inviolate to the latest posterity. And it is recommended to christians of all denominations to assemble for public worship, and abstain from servile labour on the said day.

Resolved, That another brigadier-general be appointed in the continental army.

The ballots being taken and examined, the Baron de Woedtke was elected.

Resolved, That Frederic William, Baron de de Woedtke, appointed Brigadier-General in the army of the United Colonies, be ordered immediately to repair to New-York, there to remain until the commissioners appointed to go into Canada shall reach that Colony : and that he be directed to join and accompany them  
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into Canada, and there serve under the commander of the continental troops in that province.

Resolved, That Carpenter Wharton continue, agreeable to his contract, to supply with rations the Pennsylvania battalions serving in New-York.

A petition from Joseph Blewers, and Daniel Robinson was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the memorial from the merchants, traders, and others, inhabitants of Philadelphia, the memorial from Edmund Custis, and the letters from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, and the petition from Joseph Blewer and Daniel Robinson, &c. and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported that the committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will on Monday next resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the matters referred to them.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, March 18, 1776.*

Resolved, That the treasurers be directed to lay on the table an account of the silver and gold coin in the treasury.

Resolved, That Monf. Arundel be directed to repair to the southern department, and put himself under the command of General Lee; and that General Lee, if he find him capable, be directed to employ him in the artillery service.

Resolved, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. James Mease, to be applied to the procuring necessaries,

and to the payment of the subsistence of the Pennsylvania battalions; and that the colonels be directed to account with Mr. Mease for the several sums advanced to them.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into their farther consideration the memorial from the merchants, traders, and others, inhabitants of Philadelphia, the memorial of Edmund Custis, the letters from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, and the petition of Joseph Blewer and Daniel Robinson, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported that the committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to sundry resolutions, but that not having concluded, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Mr. Henry not having accepted the commission of colonel, the Congress proceeded to the election of a colonel for the first Virginia battalion, and the ballots being taken,

William Christian, Esq; formerly lieutenant-colonel in said battalion, was elected colonel; and Francis Eppes, Esq; formerly major, was elected lieutenant-colonel; and John Green, Esq; was elected major.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow again resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take into their farther consideration the matters referred to them.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, March 19, 1776.*

Resolved, That Monf. Dohicky Arundel be appointed a captain of artillery in the continental service.

That General Lee be directed to set on foot the raising a company of artillery, and that it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of Virginia, to appoint the other officers of the said company of artillery.

A letter of the 15th from Colonel Dayton

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Dayton was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the committee for procuring muskets.

A letter of the 17th from the convention of New-Jersey was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That Captain Woolverton with his company be taken into the service of the United Colonies; and that he be directed to repair with his company as soon as properly armed and accoutered, to New-York, and put himself under the commanding officer there; and that the pay of Captain Woolverton's company commence from the time they are provided with arms and accoutrements.

A letter from Colonel Beletre, a Canadian prisoner, and sundry letters from Cameron and Smith were read.

Resolved, That they be referred to the committee on prisoners.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to supply Captain Barry of the Brig Lexington with one ton of powder.

Ordered, That the committee, to whom was referred the state and situation of the prisoners at Trenton, report thereon as soon as possible.

Resolved, That the sum of 250,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master-general, for the use of the army under the immediate command of Gen. Washington.

That the sum of 50,000 dollars be sent to General Schuyler, for the use of the army under his command.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions to the commissioners going to Canada, brought in a draught of farther instructions, and of a commission, which was read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the memorial from the merchants, traders, and others, inhabitants of Philadelphia, the memorial from Edmund Custis, the letters from the

committees of Accomac and Northampton, and the petition of Joseph Blewer and Daniel Robinson, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported that the committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to sundry resolutions, which they directed him to lay before Congress.

The report of the committee being read,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to draw a declaration pursuant to said report, and lay the same before Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Wilson.

Resolved, That it be an instruction to said committee to receive and insert a clause or clauses, that "all seamen and mariners on board of merchant ships and vessels, taken and condemned as prizes, shall be intitled to their pay, according to the terms of their contract, until the time of condemnation.

The committee to whom the letter and queries of Mr. Mease were referred, brought in their report, which was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Resolved, That Mr. Whipple be appointed a member of the marine committee, and of the committee for receiving the applications and examining the qualifications of gentlemen applying for offices in the continental service.

The committee to whom the letters from General Washington of the 14th and 26th February last, and the letters from Lord Stirling of the same month were referred, brought in their report, which was read, and the same being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That the first part thereof be re-committed.

Resolved, That the value of the passage boat York, be made good to Michael Kearney, jun. the owner thereof; it appearing that she was

impressed into the continental service, and employed in taking the ship Blue Mountain Valley, and for that reason afterwards seized and detained by order of Captain Parker, commander of the British ship of war, Phoenix; and that Lord Stirling be desired to appoint proper persons to value said boat, and report such valuation to Congress.

Resolved, That a member be elected for the secret committee in the room of Mr. Bartlett, who is absent.

The ballots being taken.

Mr. R. H. Lee was elected.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, March 20, 1776.*

A letter from Lord Stirling of the 16th, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That three members be elected for the committee appointed to consider the propriety of a war-office in the room of three, who are necessarily absent.

The members chosen, Mr. Duane; Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Johnson.

Resolved, That the sum of 3000 dollars be advanced to Col. Magaw for the purpose of purchasing fire arms for his battalion, he to be accountable.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the instructions and commission to the deputies or commissioners going to Canada, and the same being debated by paragraphs, were agreed to, as follows:

#### INSTRUCTIONS, &c.

Gentlemen,

You are with all convenient dispatch to repair to Canada, and make known to the people of that country, the wishes and intentions of the Congress with respect to them.

Represent to them that the arms of the United Colonies having been carried into that province for the purpose of frustrating the designs of the British court against our common liberties, we expect not only to defeat

the hostile machinations of Governor Carleton against us, but that we shall put it into the power of our Canadian brethren to pursue such measures for securing their own freedom and happiness, as a generous love of liberty and sound policy shall dictate to them.

Inform them, that in our judgment their interests and ours are inseparably united; that it is impossible we can be reduced to a servile submission to Great Britain without their sharing our fate: and, on the other hand, if we shall obtain, as we doubt not we shall, a full establishment of our rights, it depends wholly on their choice, whether they will participate with us in those blessings, or still remain subject to every act of tyranny, which British ministers shall please to exercise over them. Urge all such arguments, as your prudence shall suggest, to enforce our opinions concerning the mutual interest of the two countries, and to convince them of the impossibility of the war being concluded to the disadvantage of these Colonies, if we wisely and vigorously co-operate with each other.

To convince them of the uprightness of our intentions towards them, you are to declare that it is our inclination, that the people of Canada may set up such a form of government, as will be most likely, in their judgment, to produce their happiness: and you are in the strongest terms to assure them, that it is our earnest desire to adopt them into our Union, as a sister Colony, and to secure the same general system of mild and equal laws for them and for ourselves, with only such local differences as may be agreeable to each Colony respectively.

Assure the people of Canada, that we have no apprehension that the French will take any part with Great Britain, but that it is their interest, and we have reason to believe their inclination to cultivate a friendly intercourse with these Colonies.

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You are from this, and such other reasons as may appear most proper, to urge the necessity the people are under of immediately taking some decisive step, to put themselves under the protection of the United Colonies. For expediting such a measure, you are to explain to them our method of collecting the sense of the people, and conducting our affairs regularly by committees of observation and inspection in the several districts, and by conventions and committees of safety in the several Colonies. Recommend these modes to them. Explain to them the nature and principles of government among freemen; developing, in contrast to those, the base, cruel, and insidious designs involved in the late act of parliament, for making a more effectual provision for the government of the province of Quebec. Endeavour to stimulate them by motives of glory as well as interest, to assume a part in a contest, by which they must be deeply affected, and to aspire to a portion of that power, by which they are ruled, and not to remain the mere spoils and prey of conquerors and lords.

You are further to declare, that we hold sacred the rights of conscience, and may promise to the whole people, solemnly in our name, the free and undisturbed exercise of their religion, and to the clergy the full, perfect, and peaceable enjoyment of all their estates; that the government of every thing relating to their religion and clergy, shall be left intirely in the hands of the good people of that province, and such legislature as they shall constitute; provided, however, that all other denominations of Christians be equally intitled to hold offices, and enjoy civil privileges, and the free exercise of their religion, and be totally exempt from the payment of any tithes or taxes for the support of any religion.

Inform them that you are vested by

this Congress with full powers to effect these purposes; and therefore press them to have a complete representation of the people assembled in convention with all possible expedition, to deliberate concerning the establishment of a form of government, and a union with the United Colonies. As to the terms of union, insist on the propriety of their being similar to those on which the other Colonies unite. Should they object to this, report to this Congress the objections, and the terms on which alone they will come into our union. Should they agree to our terms, you are to promise in the names of the United Colonies, that we will defend and protect the people of Canada against all enemies, in the same manner as we will defend and protect any of the United Colonies.

You are to establish a free press, and to give directions for the frequent publication of such pieces as may be of service to the cause of the United Colonies.

You are to settle all disputes between the Canadians and the continental troops, and to make such regulations relating thereto, as you shall judge proper.

You are to make a strict and impartial inquiry into the cause of the imprisonment of Colonel Du Free, Lieutenant-Colonel Nefeu, Major St. George Du Pree, and Major Gray, officers of the militia, and of John Frazer, Esq; late a judge of the police at Montreal, and take such orders concerning them as you shall judge most proper.

In reforming any abuses you may observe in Canada, establishing and enforcing regulations for preservation of peace and good order there, and composing differences between the troops of the United Colonies and the Canadians, all officers and soldiers are required to yield obedience to you; and to enforce the decisions that



that you or any two of you may make, you are empowered to suspend any military officer from the exercise of his commission, till the pleasure of the Congress shall be known, if you or any two of you shall think it expedient.

You are also empowered to fit and vote as members of councils of war, in directing fortifications and defences to be made, or to be demolished, by land or by water; and to draw orders on the president for any sums of money, not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars in the whole, to defray the expence of the works.

Lastly, You are, by all the means you can use, to promote the execution of the resolutions now made, or hereafter to be made in Congress.

On motion Résolved; That the following additional instructions be given to the commissioners aforesaid.

You are empowered and directed to promote and encourage the trade of Canada with the Indian nations, and to grant passports for the carrying it on, as far as it may consist with the safety of the troops, and the public good.

You are also directed and authorised to assure the inhabitants of Canada, that their commerce with foreign nations shall in all respects be put upon an equal footing with, and encouraged and protected in the same manner as the trade of the United Colonies.

You are also directed to use every wise and prudent measure to introduce and give credit and circulation to the continental money in Canada.

In case the former resolution of Congress respecting the English American troops in Canada has not been carried into effect, you are directed to use your best endeavours for forming a battalion of the New-York troops in that country, and to appoint the field and other officers out of the gentlemen who have continued there during the campaign, according to their respective ranks and merit.

And if it should be found impracticable, you are to direct such of them as are provided for in the four battalions now raising in New-York, to repair to their respective corps. To enable you to carry this resolution into effect, you are furnished with blank commissions signed by the president.

Resolved, That the memorial from the Indian traders residing at Montreal be delivered to the commissioners going to Canada.

The draught of the commission being taken into consideration, and debated by paragraphs was agreed to as follows:

The delegates of the United Colonies of New-Hampshire, &c. to Benjamin Franklin, L.L.D. member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, F. R. S. &c. &c. one of the delegates of the colony of Pennsylvania, Samuel Chase, Esq; one of the delegates of the colony of Maryland, and Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; of the said colony of Maryland, greeting. Know ye, that we, reposing special trust and confidence in your zeal, fidelity, abilities, and assiduity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, or any two of you, commissioners for and on behalf of us, and all the people of the United Colonies, whom we represent, to promote or to form an union between the said Colonies and the people of Canada, according to the instructions herewith delivered you, and such as you may hereafter receive, and to execute all such matters and things, as you are or shall be directed by your said instructions. And we do require all officers, soldiers, and others, who may facilitate your negotiation, or promote the success thereof, to aid and assist you therein; and you are from time to time to transmit and report your proceedings to Congress. This commission to continue in force till revoked by this or a future Congress.

Dated

Dated at Philadelphia this day of

By order of Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. Franklin, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Chase, be appointed to confer with Mr. Wrixon, to examine into his military abilities, and inquire whether he is willing to engage in the service of the United Colonies, and report to Congress.

Colonel St. Clair having informed Congress that Michael Hufnagle, appointed a first lieutenant, and James O'Hara, and Abel Morris, appointed ensigns in his battalion, have declined to accept their commissions, the committee on qualifications recommended Thomas Butler in the room of Michael Hufnagle, George McCulloch in the room of James O'Hara, and George Ross in the room of Abel Morris.

Resolved, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

Resolved, That the committee of safety of New-Jersey be desired to remove the prisoners from Trenton to such place or places in that Colony, as may be thought convenient, at a proper distance from the sea and the post roads, subject to the regulations formerly made respecting prisoners.

Resolved, That all officers, prisoners, who shall refuse to subscribe the parole ordered by Congress, be committed to prison.

The committee appointed to promote the making of muskets, to whom Colonel Dayton's letter respecting the quality of the arms taken by Colonel Heard on Long-Island was referred, brought in their report, which was read; whereupon the Congress came to the following resolution:

Whereas in the execution of the resolve of Congress of the 14th, respecting the disarming of disaffected persons, many fire-arms may be taken, which may not be fit to arm any of the troops mentioned therein. Therefore,

Resolved, That all the fire-arms so taken being appraised according to said resolve, none of them shall be paid for, but those that are fit for the use of such troops, or that may conveniently be so made, and the remainder shall be safely kept by the said assemblies, conventions, councils or committees of safety, for the owners, to be delivered to them when the Congress shall direct.

The committee appointed to consider the best ways and means of supplying the army in Canada with provisions and necessaries brought in their report, which was read.

Resolved, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

A petition of John Secord was presented to Congress and read, and the consideration thereof, at the request of a Colony, was deferred till to-morrow.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Abraham Hunt, for provisions, fire-wood, &c. to the prisoners at Trenton, and for horse-hire for the public service, the sum of 607.6 dollars.

To Ephraim Blaine, Esq; for necessaries furnished the rifle companies, the sum of 129.7 dollars; of which sum 44.3 dollars are to be charged to Captain Hendricks, and 65 dollars to Captain Chambers.

To sundries, on certificates for necessaries furnished to one of the rifle companies, the sum of 122.5 dollars, of which sum 101.4 dollars, being for rifles, &c. furnished to Captain Cluggage's company, to be charged to said company; the amount of the certificates to be paid to Bernard Dougherty, Esq.

To William Baufman, for provisions, &c. furnished the prisoners in Lancaster, the sum of 1528.8 dollars.

To the committee of Frederick, the sum of 52.7 dollars, to be paid to Thomas Johnson, Esq.

To

To Francis Lee, for 483 meals dieting of General Lee's guard, the sum of 48.3 dollars.

To Conrad Ulster, for 185 meals dieting the said men, 19 dollars.

To Mary Bryant, for 288 meals dieting the said men, 28 dollars.

To Ann Todd, for 158 meals dieting the said men, the sum of 15.8 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, March 21, 1776.*

A letter of the 7th from General Schuyler, with a return of the forces before Quebec, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

Resolved, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to employ some trusty persons in each county to purchase as many good muskets as will be sufficient to arm the battalions raised in said Colony; and that they exert their utmost diligence in procuring the said arms speedily, and on the most reasonable terms; that an order for 12,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of said committee to pay for the arms, the said committee to be accountable.

Resolved, That the sum of 600 dollars be sent to Colonel Charles Stuart, and that he be desired to muster Captain Woolverton's company, and when he finds them properly armed, accoutred, and ready to march, to furnish them with necessities, and expedite their march to New-York, agreeable to the orders of Congress; Mr. Stuart to be accountable for the money put into his hands.

Resolved, That Mons. le Chevalier de St. Aulaire be permitted to raise an independent company of rangers in Canada, with the pay of a captain; or, in case he shall not be

able to raise such a company, that he be recommended to the commanding officer in Canada, to be employed in such service there, as may be thought suitable to his genius and ability.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety, and committees of correspondence and inspection, that they exert their utmost endeavours to promote the culture of hemp, flax, and cotton, and the growth of wool in these United Colonies.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the said assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety, that they take the earliest measures for erecting and establishing in each and every Colony, a society for the improvement of agriculture, arts, manufactures, and commerce, and to maintain a correspondence between such societies, that the rich and numerous natural advantages of this country for supporting its inhabitants may not be neglected.

That it be recommended to the said assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety, that they forthwith consider of ways and means of introducing the manufactures of duck and sail-cloth, and steel, into such Colonies, where they are not now understood, and of encouraging, increasing, and improving them, where they are.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to superintend the printing the Journals of Congress; and that, if the present printer cannot execute the work with sufficient expedition, they be empowered to employ another printer.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Allen.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, March 22, 1776.*

A letter of the 13th from General Washington, inclosing the proceedings

ings of a council of war; also a letter from Lord Stirling of the 19th, were laid before Congress and read.

A petition from Thorowgood Smith, and others, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth, that they have procured a vessel, and raised money to fit her out as a privateer, in order to cruize and guard the coast of Virginia, and praying that a commission be granted to William Sheppen, to whom they propose to give the command of said vessel; and farther that the Congress will grant them a small quantity of powder, upon their making satisfaction for the same.

Resolved, That a commission be granted to William Shippen, as captain of the above-mentioned vessel, for the purposes aforesaid.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to sell Captain William Sheppen, 300 lb. of powder, for the use of his vessel.

The committee appointed to prepare a declaration pursuant to certain resolutions, brought in a draught, which was read.

Resolved, That the petition of John Secord be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Penn, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Jay.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

On account of expences in conveying powder, the sum of 8.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Morton, Esq.

To Matthias Slough, for provisions furnished the prisoners in Lancaster, the sum of 226.8 dollars.

To Ephraim Blaine, for sundry articles omitted in the account of expences at the treaty with the Indians at Pittsburg, the sum of 90.5 dollars.

To sundries, on certificates for necessities furnished to Captain Stephenfon's company in Virginia, the sum of 58.3 dollars, and that

the same ought to be paid to Timothy Matlack, of which 14.7 dollars, being for a rifle, to be charged to Captain Stephenfon.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

Resolved, That the sum of 750 dollars be advanced to the Baron de Woedtke, he to be accountable out of his pay.

Resolved, That the rank of all such officers in the continental army, as held similar commissions in that service, before the term of their late appointment expired, be settled by the dates of their former, and not their present commissions.

The assembly of the counties on Delaware, having recommended a gentleman to be major of the battalion ordered to be raised in that Colony, in the room of John M'Pherson, jun. Esq; who fell before Quebec, and never received his commission, the Congress proceeded to the election, and the ballots being taken and examined.

Thomas M'Donnough was elected.

Resolved, That an order for 12,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the committee of safety of Delaware government, for the use of the battalion raised in that Colony, the said committee to be accountable.

The Congress took into consideration the declaration brought in by the committee, and after debate, the further consideration thereof, at the request of a Colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

Ordered, That the secretary publish the substance of the letters received from the camp at Cambridge.

Resolved, That the marine committee be empowered to dispose of the coal on board the Blue Mountain Valley, in such manner as they shall judge most for the benefit of the United Colonies.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

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Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, March 23, 1776.*

A letter from James Young was laid before Congress and read, requesting that his son John, who eloped from him last January, and got on board the Phoenix ship of war, but is now unfortunately a prisoner in New-York, may be permitted on his parole to reside at the estate of his late grandfather, Dr. Graeme.

Resolved, That Mr. Young's request be granted.

A letter from Lord Stirling of the 18th, inclosing a letter from William de Hart, and a letter from the captains and subalterns of the first New-Jersey battalion. Also,

A memorial from Thomas Scott, of Hunterdon, desiring that he may be appointed a captain of a company of rangers. And,

A letter from S. Badlam were laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the said letters be referred to the committee on qualifications.

Resolved, That an order for 30,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Thomas Lowry, commissary for the use of the New-Jersey battalions, he to be accountable.

The committee on qualifications having recommended Peter Scull to be brigade-major in the army of the United Colonies in the Middle Department :

Joseph Davenport to be captain in the third Pennsylvania battalion in the room of Mr. Scull :

Evan Edwards to be captain in said battalion in the room of Mr. Alice, who has resigned :

William Tilton to be a first lieutenant in said battalion in the room of Evan Edwards :

Garret Steddiford to be an ensign in the said battalion.

And having also recommended the following persons for Colonel Irvine's battalion, viz.

Robert Wilson to be a first lieutenant

in the room of William M'Clelland, resigned :

John Alexander, to be a first lieutenant in the room of Robert White, resigned :

Andrew Irvine, a second lieutenant in the room of John Alexander :

— Neeper, an ensign in the room of John Murray, who has resigned.

Resolved, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

Resolved, That the sum of 3200 dollars in specie be advanced to Mr. Cole, to be by him delivered to the commanding officer in Canada, for the service of the continent, and that he be desired to proceed thither immediately.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Dr. Jonathan Potts, for attendance on the second and fourth Pennsylvania battalions, the sum of 67.6 dollars.

To Nathaniel Heard, for expences in the expedition against the Tories on Long-Island, the sum of 2161.6 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the declaration which was agreed to as follows :

Whereas the petitions of the United Colonies to the King for the redress of great and manifold grievances have not only been rejected but treated with scorn and contempt, and the opposition to designs evidently formed to reduce them to a state of servile subjection, and their necessary defence against hostile forces actually employed to subdue them, declared rebellion ; and whereas an unjust war hath been commenced against them, which the commanders of the British fleets and armies have prosecuted, and still continue to prosecute, with their utmost vigour, and in a cruel manner,

runner, wasting, spoiling, and destroying the country, burning houses and defenceless towns, and exposing the helpless inhabitants to every misery from the inclemency of the winter, and not only urging savages to invade the country, but instigating negroes to murder their masters; and whereas the parliament of Great-Britain hath lately passed an act, affirming these Colonies to be in open rebellion, forbidding all trade and commerce with the inhabitants thereof, until they shall accept pardons, and submit to despotic rule, declaring their property wherever found upon the water, liable to seizure and confiscation, and enacting that what had been done there, by virtue of the royal authority, were just and lawful acts, and shall be so deemed; from all which it is manifest, that the iniquitous scheme, concerted to deprive them of the liberty they have a right to by the laws of nature and the English constitution, will be pertinaciously pursued: it being therefore necessary to provide for their defence and security, and justifiable to make reprisals upon their enemies, and otherwise to annoy them according to the laws and usages of nations, the Congress, trusting that such of their friends in Great-Britain (of whom it is confessed there are many entitled to applause and gratitude for their patriotism and benevolence, and in whose favour a discrimination of property cannot be made) as shall suffer by captures, will impute it to the authors of our common calamities, Do declare and resolve, as followeth, to wit:

Resolved, That the inhabitants of these Colonies be permitted to fit out armed vessels to cruise on the enemies of these United Colonies.

Resolved, That all ships and other vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandizes, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of Great-Bri-

tain taken on the high seas, or between high and low water mark, by any armed vessel, fitted out by any private person or persons, and to whom commissions shall be granted, and being libelled and prosecuted in any court erected for the trial of maritime affairs in any of these Colonies, shall be deemed and adjudged to be lawful prize; and after deducting and paying the wages which seamen and mariners on board of such captures as are merchant ships and vessels shall be entitled to, according to the terms of their contracts, until the time of the adjudication, shall be condemned to and for the use of the owner or owners, and the officers, marines, and mariners of such armed vessel, according to such rules and proportions as they shall agree on; provided always, that this resolution shall not extend to any vessel bringing settlers, arms, ammunition, or warlike stores to and for the use of these Colonies, or any of the inhabitants thereof, who are friends to the American cause, or to such warlike stores, or to the effects of such settlers.

Resolved, That all ships or vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandizes, belonging to any inhabitant of Great-Britain as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any of the vessels of war of these United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited; one third, after deducting and paying the wages of seamen and mariners as aforesaid, to the officers and men on board, and two-thirds to the use of the United Colonies.

Resolved, That all ships or vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandizes, belonging to any inhabitants of Great-Britain as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expence of any of the United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited, and divided, after deduct-

deducting and paying the wages of seamen and mariners as aforesaid, in such manner and proportions as the assembly or convention of such Colony shall direct.

Resolved, That all vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and cargoes, belonging to the inhabitants of Great Britain as aforesaid, and all vessels which may be employed in carrying supplies to the ministerial armies, which shall happen to be taken near the shores of any of these Colonies, by the people of the country or detachments from the army, shall be deemed lawful prize; and the court of admiralty within the said Colony is required on condemnation thereof, to adjudge that all charges and expences, which may attend the capture and trial, be first paid out of the monies arising from the sales of the prize, and the remainder equally divided among all those, who shall have been actually engaged and employed in taking the said prize. Provided, that where any detachments of the army shall have been employed as aforesaid, their part of the prize-money, shall be distributed among them in proportion to the pay of the officers and soldiers so employed.

Resolved, That the commissioners appointed to go to Canada, or any two of them, be empowered, if they think it necessary for the service of the United Colonies, to raise a number of independent companies, not exceeding six, and to appoint the officers; that they also be empowered to fill up all vacancies, that may happen in the army of the United Colonies in Canada, while they are there.

Resolved, That 1066 $\frac{2}{3}$  dollars in continental money, over and above the 1600 dollars to be paid them in specie, be advanced to the commissioners going to Canada, to defray their expences, they to render an account.

Resolved, That 400 dollars in spe-

cie be paid to Mr. Walker, in full for so much by him lent to General Wooster, for the use of the army in Canada, and that General Wooster's note be taken up and cancelled.

Resolved, That this Congress will on Monday next resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies; and that sundry motions offered by the members from Massachusetts-Bay, Maryland, and Virginia, be referred to said committee.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, March 25, 1776.*

Sundry letters were laid before Congress and read.

One from General Washington of the 19th wherein he informs Congress, that on the 17th the enemy evacuated Boston, and our troops took possession of it.

One from General Schuyler, of the 12th.

One from Lord Stirling of the 21st. And,

One from the committee of safety of New-Jersey.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Congress, in their own name, and in the name of the Thirteen United Colonies, whom they represent, be presented to his Excellency Gen. Washington, and the officers and soldiers under his command, for their wise and spirited conduct in the siege and acquisition of Boston; and that a medal of gold be struck in commemoration of this great event, and presented to his Excellency; and that a committee of three be appointed to prepare a letter of thanks, and a proper device for the medal.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Hopkins.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with Mr. Dugan, and Colonel Ritzema.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Allen.

Resolved, That 20,000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of Virgi-

nia

nia for the use of the battalions in that Colony; the said delegates to account for the expenditure thereof.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the Colonies in the southern department brought in their report, which was read as follows:

“ That it appears highly probable that a very considerable force will be exerted in that department by our enemies early this spring; that the continental forces employed in South Carolina and Virginia respectively, cannot prudently be solely relied on, for the defence of those Colonies; that South Carolina and Virginia are at a very great separate expence in armed vessels, rendered absolutely necessary by the situation and circumstances of those countries; that the militia of South Carolina are obliged to perform a very laborious duty, which, from the smallness of their number, and the consequent quick rotation, is excessively burdensome; and that the Colony of Virginia, in addition to the six battalions already there, have resolved to raise, and are now embodying three other battalions.” Whereupon,

Resolved, That the convention or council of safety of South Carolina be permitted to raise and embody two other battalions, and that they be on the pay and at the expence of the continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for service, and accordingly mustered.

That the three colonial battalions of Virginia, be also on the pay and at the expence of the continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for service, and accordingly mustered.

That the contracts made by the council of safety of Virginia for the subsistence of the third battalion in that Colony, at six-pence half-penny a ration; of the fifth at eight-pence, and of the second, fourth, seventh, eighth, and ninth, at seven-pence halfpenny a ration be confirmed.

Resolved, That a deputy muster-master-general be appointed for the southern department.

The ballots being taken and examined.

Edmund Randolph, Esq; was elected.

Resolved, That E. Randolph, Esq; be empowered to appoint two deputy muster-masters under him, one for North Carolina and the other for South Carolina and Georgia.

Resolved, That the order of the day be postponed.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on the ways and means of supplying the troops in Canada with provisions and necessaries; whereupon,

Resolved, That General Schuyler be directed to take such order respecting the supplies of provisions necessary for the troops in Canada, as he may deem expedient.

The Congress being of opinion that the reduction of Quebec, and the general security of the province of Canada, are objects of great concern;

Resolved, That Gen. Washington be directed to detach four battalions into Canada, from the army under his command, as soon as he shall be of opinion that the safety of New-York and the eastern service will permit.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.  
*Tuesday, March 26, 1776.*

The Congress being informed that Mr. Ward, one of the delegates of Rhode-Island, died yesterday.

Resolved, That this Congress will in a body attend the funeral of Mr. Ward to-morrow, with a crape round the arm, and will continue in mourning for the space of one month.

Resolved, That Mr. Hopkins, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Wolcott be a committee to superintend the funeral, and that they be directed to apply to the Rev. Mr. Stillman, and request him to preach a funeral sermon on the occasion.



That the said committee be directed to invite the assembly and committee of safety of Pennsylvania, and other public bodies in Philadelphia, to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the privates of the companies ordered from Maryland to Accomac and Northampton, be allowed the pay of the privates in the southern department, which is 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  dollars, per calendar month.

Resolved, That if the convention or council of safety of North Carolina shall judge it necessary for the common safety to raise one or two more battalions, the same when armed fit for service and mustered, be taken into the pay of the continent.

Resolved, That Commodore Douglass be ordered immediately to repair to the Lakes, and take the command of the vessels on that station.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Thursday.

*Thursday, March 28, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of William Barrel of Philadelphia, in full for tent cloth sent by him to Col. Mifflin for the use of the army under the command of General Washington; the money being paid in consequence of the general's letter of the 13th, to be charged to the account of the general.

Resolved, That the marine committee be empowered to purchase, on the most reasonable terms they can, the ship Molly, for the use of the continent, and to fit her out with all possible expedition to join Capt. Barry on his cruise along the coast, between New-York and Virginia.

A memorial of Thomas Walker of Canada was presented to Congress and read.

Two letters of the 27th from the committee of safety of New-Jersey, were read.

Resolved, That the president return an answer, and inform the committee of safety of New-Jersey that

the Congress see no reason to alter or countermand the requisition of the 15th, and that therefore they be requested to expedite the march of the troops to New-York, agreeable to the requisition of the commanding officer.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a colonel of the third battalion ordered to be raised in the Colony of New-York, and the ballots being taken.

Rudolphus Ritzema was elected.

The committee appointed to confer with Colonel Ritzema and Mr. Dugan brought in their report, which was read.

Resolved, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. Jeremiah Dugan, as a reward for his services in Canada.

Resolved, That Mr. Jeremiah Dugan be appointed a major, with the rank of a lieutenant-colonel, to command a body of three hundred rangers.

That the said rangers be divided into three companies, each to consist of an hundred men, and to be commanded by a captain and two lieutenants: that the captains and lieutenants be recommended by Lieutenant-Colonel Dugan to the commissioners going to Canada for their approbation, and that, if they approve the gentlemen recommended, they grant them commissions.

Resolved, That Mr. William Finney be appointed a deputy quartermaster-general in the southern department.

Resolved, That two engineers be employed for the southern department.

Resolved, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. James Mease, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

Information being given to Congress that that some prisoners in the goal

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goal of Philadelphia have meditated an escape, and are near carrying their plan into execution.

Resolved, That the goaler be directed to confine John Connolly, J. Smith, and Moses Kirkland, in separate apartments, and suffer no person to converse with any of them, without special orders of Congress.

Resolved, That the sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia be directed by Mr. M'Kean to call to his assistance a guard of fifty men from the barracks for the defence of the goal; and that the sheriff be farther directed to keep secret any intimation given him of a design to rescue his prisoners, and to employ every means to discover and apprehend those concerned in such design.

Resolved, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. Samuel Fairlamb, for the use of the fourth Pennsylvania battalion, he to be accountable.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, March 29, 1776.*

Sundry letters were laid before Congress and read.

Two from General Schuyler of the 19th and 21st, with a copy of the treaty held with the Indians at Albany, &c.

One from the convention of New-York, of the 26th.

One from Allan M'Donald.

Resolved, That the letter from Allan M'Donald be referred to the committee on prisoners.

That the other letters with the papers enclosed be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to Mr. William Henry, and Co. 15lb. of powder, to prove the muskets he has contracted to make for the continent.

The Congress resumed the confi-

deration of the report of the committee on the means of supplying the troops in Canada. Whereupon,

Resolved, That a deputy commissary-general of stores and provisions be appointed for the army of the United Colonies in Canada.

The ballots being taken and examined.

Mr. J. Price was elected.

Resolved, That the last paragraph of the report be recommitted for further enquiry and examination.

A letter from the committee of safety of New-Jersey, and one from Captain John Macpherfon were received and read.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, March 30, 1776.*

Resolved, That 60 dollars be advanced to Captain Arundel, to be deducted out of his pay, and that he be directed immediately to repair to the southern department, and put himself under the command of Gen. Lee.

Resolved, That Monf. Dechambault and his companion be permitted to come to Philadelphia and transact his business, and then return to Bristol.

The Congress proceeded to the election of two engineers for the southern department, and the ballots being taken.

John Stadler and Monf. Massenbach, were elected.

The Congress took into consideration the letter from the committee of safety of New-Jersey. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the minute-men employed by Congress under the command of Colonel Heard, in the expedition to Long-Island, be allowed, while on that service, the same pay and rations as continental troops in the middle department.

Resolved, That the delegates of New-York prepare an answer to the committee of safety of New-Jersey, and assign the reasons of the foregoing resolution.

The

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To William Tricket, for stationary, the sum of 41.7 dollars.

To Philip Apricht, for provisions to General Lee's guard, the sum of 4.7 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Adam Kimmel.

To sundries, on certificates for necessities furnished to the rifle companies, the sum of 44.2 dollars, and that 2.5 dollars, part of said sum be charged to Captain Cressap's company.

To sundries, on certificates for rifles, shirts, &c. furnished to Captain Cluggage's company, the sum of 81.1 dollars, which ought to be paid to John Montgomery, Esq; and charged to said company.

To Robert Erwin, waggon-master, on an account now settled, the sum of 409.3 dollars.

To Sacheverel Wood, for provisions furnished by him to several prisoners in the goal of Philadelphia, the sum of 137.6 dollars.

To Thomas Dewees, for provisions for Connolly, Cameron, Smith, and Kirkland, the sum of 57.8 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee appointed to confer with Major Wrixon, brought in their report, which was read,

Resolved, That each regimental surgeon be allowed a mate.

That the pay of a surgeon's mate be 18 dollars a month.

Resolved, That suitable chirurgical instruments be purchased with each medicine chest.

Resolved, That each brigadier-general, when on command, be empowered to appoint a brigade major.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, April 1, 1776.*

Resolved, That Capt. D. Arundel be allowed 48.5 dollars in full for pay and subsistence, from the 8th of Feb.

the time he was recommended to General Schuyler, to the 19th of March, when he received his commission.

Resolved, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to advance Captain Romans one month's pay for himself and the officers and men of his company, and also subsistence money to Albany.

The committee to whom the petition of Captain White Eyes was referred, brought in their report which was read.

Resolved, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The Congress having, on the 17th of February last, appointed a standing committee for superintending the treasury, with power, among other things, to employ and instruct proper persons for liquidating the public accounts; and the said resolutions not being sufficiently explicit, with respect to the manner and place of settling those accounts, and it being a matter of great consequence, that the public accounts should be regularly stated and kept, and justly liquidated and settled.

Resolved, Therefore that a treasury office of accounts be instituted and established, and that such office be kept in the city or place, where Congress shall from time to time be assembled and hold their sessions.

That the said office of accounts be under the direction and superintendence of the standing committee for the treasury.

That an auditor-general, and a competent number of assistants and clerks, be appointed by Congress, and employed for stating, arranging, and keeping the public accounts.

That all accounts and claims against the United Colonies, for services or supplies, where the rates or prices have not been ascertained by Congress, shall be presented to the committee of claims, liquidated by them, and reported to and allowed by Congress, previous to their being passed, at the treasury

treasury office; that all other accounts and claims, consisting of articles, the price or value of which shall have previously been fixed by contract, or otherwise ascertained by Congress, shall be liquidated and settled at the treasury office, and reported for the allowance of Congress, by the committee for superintending the treasury, and then passed and entered at the treasury office.

That all contracts, securities, and obligations, for the use and benefit of the United Colonies, shall be lodged and kept in the treasury office of accounts; and that all persons to whom public monies have been or shall be advanced or paid, shall be charged with the same in the books of the said office, for which every warrant on the treasury, which shall issue after the said office shall be opened, shall, previous to its being paid, be entered at the treasury office, and the entry certified on the warrant by one of the committee on the treasury, the auditor general, or one of his assistants or clerks; provided, however, that all orders or warrants issued by committees appointed and authorized by Congress to draw on the treasurers for particular purposes, shall be paid and charged to the account of the said committee respectively, until they shall settle and have their accounts passed by Congress, when the debits against them shall be discharged in the treasury office by such credits as Congress shall agree to and allow.

That all assemblies, conventions, councils, or committees of safety, commissaries, pay-masters, and others, intrusted with public monies, shall, within a reasonable time after being called upon for that purpose, by the committee of the treasury, produce their accounts and vouchers at the treasury office, in order to their being settled and adjusted in the manner before directed.

That the committee for superintending the treasury shall be autho-

rised to apply to the commanding officers and others, in the continental service, for such materials and information, as the committee may judge to be useful for stating, explaining, or checking the public accounts, in order to their being fairly and justly settled.

That the auditor general and his assistants or clerks, before entering upon their offices, shall respectively take an oath, to be administered by one or more of the committee of the treasury office (a certificate whereof shall be filed in the treasury office) well and faithfully to execute the trust reposed in them, as auditor, assistant, or clerk, (as the case may be,) of the office of accounts, established by Congress, according to the best of their skill and judgment, and to disclose no matter, the knowledge of which shall be acquired in consequence of such their office, which they shall be directed to keep secret.

That the committee for superintending the treasury shall be authorized to hire suitable places, and procure books of accounts and other necessities at the public expence, for the establishing and doing the business of the said office.

Resolved, That Major James Hewes, a prisoner at Elizabeth town, be allowed and ordered to come to Philadelphia for the benefit of his health, and there to wait on the committee for prisoners, and take their directions with respect to the place of his future residence.

Resolved, That Mr. M'Kean and Mr. Paine, be directed to examine the goal of Philadelphia, and particularly the apartments where Kirkland, Connolly, Smith, and Cameron are confined, and report what is necessary to be done to have them safely and securely kept.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with James M'Knight, and examine his account



account and the nature of his claim, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. de Hart.

The committee on qualifications having recommended Jacob Kemper, jun. to be appointed an ensign in Captain Howell's company in the first New-Jersey battalion, in the room of Cyprus de Hart, who has resigned.

Resolved, That he be appointed, and that a commission be granted to him accordingly.

Resolved, That the president in his next letter to General Schuyler, desire him to send an account of the lead at Ticonderoga.

A letter from Alexander M'Donald, George Gillespie, and W. Saunders, of the 12th of March, was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to Mr. R. Morris, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. de Hart.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, April 2, 1776.*

A letter from General Washington of the 24th of March, with five papers inclosed, was laid before Congress and read.

The committee appointed to prepare the form of a commission, and instructions to commanders of private ships of war, brought in the same, which were read.

The commission being agreed to, is as follows:

The delegates of the United Colonies of New-Hampshire, &c. to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting: know ye, that we have granted, and by these presents do grant, license and authority to

mariner, commander of the  
called of the  
burden of tons, or thereabouts,  
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carriage guns, and navigated by  
men, to fit out and set forth the said

in a warlike manner, and by and with the said and the crew thereof, by force of arms to attack, seize, and take the ships and other vessels, belonging to the inhabitants of Great Britain, or any of them, with their tackle, apparel, furniture, and lading, on the high seas, or between high and low water marks, and to bring the same to some convenient port in the said Colonies, in order that the courts which are or shall be there appointed to hear and determine causes civil and maritime, may proceed in due form to condemn the said captures, if they be adjudged lawful prize; the said having given bond with sufficient sureties that nothing be done by the said or any of the officers, mariners, or company thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with the usages and customs of nations, and the instructions, a copy of which is herewith delivered to him. And we will and require all our officers whatsoever, to give succour and assistance to the said

in the premises. This commission shall continue in force until the Congress shall issue orders to the contrary.

By order of Congress.

The Congress then took into consideration the draught of instructions, and after some time spent thereon,

Resolved, That it be recommitted, and that it be an instruction to the committee to fill up the blanks in the said draught as they shall think best.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter of thanks to General Washington, and the officers and soldiers under his command, brought in a draught, which was read and agreed to.

Ordered, That it be transcribed, signed by the president, and forwarded.

The committee on prisoners, to whom the letter from Mons. Belletre, of the 16th of March last, was referred,

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ferred, brought in their report, which was read. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the sum of 3400 dollars be advanced by the treasurers to Monf. Belletre on his delivering to them his bills of exchange for the like sum payable in gold or silver in the province of Canada.

A petition from William Lindsey being presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That Colonel Wayne be directed to discharge Robert, the son of said William Lindsey, inlisted in his battalion.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, April 3, 1776.*

Resolved, That the letter from General Washington of the 24th of March, with the papers inclosed, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Wilson.

A memorial and petition from Captain John Nelson, was presented to Congress and read. Also,

A petition from P. Moore, in behalf of the owners of the sloops Congress and Chance, privateers, was presented and read.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to sell said owners, 400 lb. of powder, for the use of their privateers.

The committee of claims, to whom the accounts of Messrs. Price and Haywood were referred, brought in their report. Whereupon,

Resolved, That there be advanced to Messrs. Price and Haywood, the sum of 64,358.6 dollars, on account of supplies to the army in Canada, to be accounted for on the settlement of their accounts; and that General Wooster be directed to forward the accounts and vouchers lodged in his hands.

The said committee farther reported that there is due,

To the township of Montague in the

county of Suffex in New-Jersey for slay hire, in forwarding the prisoners from Canada, under the command of Captain Brasher, the sum of 45 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Nicholas Christopher.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

A letter from H. Fisher of Lewes Town to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, together with a resolve of said committee being laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the commanding officer of the battalion raised in Delaware government be directed to send two companies of said battalion to Lewes Town, there to remain in the service of the continent till farther orders.

Resolved, That the marine committee be directed and empowered to fit out with all expedition, two armed cutters for the service of the continent.

Resolved, That blank commissions for private ships of war and letters of marque and reprisal, signed by the president, be sent to the general assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety of the United Colonies, to be by them filled up and delivered to the persons intending to fit out such private ships of war for making captures of British vessels and cargoes, who shall apply for the same, and execute the bonds, which shall be sent with the said commissions, which bonds shall be returned to the Congress.

Resolved, That every person intending to set forth and fit out a private ship or vessel of war, and applying for a commission or letters of marque and reprisal for that purpose, shall produce a writing subscribed by him, containing the name and tonnage or burden of the ship or vessel, the number of her guns with their weight of metal, the name and place of residence of the owner or owners, the names of the commander and

other officers, the number of the crew, and the quantity of provisions and warlike stores; which writing shall be delivered to the secretary of Congress, or to the clerk of the house of representatives, convention or council or committee of safety of the Colony in which the ship or vessel shall be, to be transmitted to the said secretary, and shall be registered by him; and that the commander of the ship or vessel, before the commission or letters of marque and reprisal may be granted, shall, together with sureties, seal and deliver a bond in the penalty of five thousand dollars, if the vessel be of one hundred tons or under, or ten thousand dollars, if of a greater burden, payable to the President of the Congress in trust for the use of the United Colonies, with condition in the form following, to wit, "The condition of this obligation is such, that if the above bounden who is commander of the

called belonging to of in the Colony of mounting carriage guns and navigated by men, and who hath applied for a commission and letters of marque and reprisal to arm, equip, and set forth to sea the said as a private ship of war, and to make captures of British vessels and cargoes, shall not exceed or transgress the powers and authorities which shall be contained in the said commission, but shall in all things observe and conduct himself and govern his crew by and according to the same, and certain instructions therewith to be delivered, and such other instructions as may hereafter be given to him, and shall make reparation for all damages sustained by any misconduct or unwarrantable proceedings of himself or the officers or crew of the said then this obligation shall be void, or else remain in force," which bond shall be lodged with the said secretary of Congress.

The committee to whom the in-

structions to the commanders of private ships or vessels of war, were re-committed, brought in a report, which being taken into consideration and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

*Instructions to the commanders of private ships or vessels of war, which shall have commissions or letters of marque and reprisal, authorizing them to make captures of British vessels and cargoes.*

1. You may by force of arms attack, subdue, and take all ships and other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, on the high seas, or between high water and low water marks, except ships and vessels bringing persons who intend to settle and reside in the United Colonies, or bringing arms, ammunition, or warlike stores, to the said Colonies, for the use of such inhabitants thereof as are friends to the American cause, which you shall suffer to pass unmolested, the commanders thereof permitting a peaceable search, and giving satisfactory information of the contents of the ladings, and destinations of the voyages.

2. You may by force of arms attack, subdue, and take all ships and other vessels whatsoever, carrying soldiers, arms, gunpowder, ammunition, provisions, or any other contraband goods, to any of the British armies or ships of war employed against these Colonies.

3. You shall bring such ships and vessels as you shall take, with their guns, rigging, tackle, apparel, furniture, and ladings, to some convenient port or ports of the United Colonies, that proceedings may thereupon be had in due form before the courts, which are or shall be there appointed to hear and determine causes civil and maritime.

4. You, or one of your chief officers, shall bring or send the master and pilot, and one or more principal person or persons of the company of every

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every ship or vessel by you taken, as soon after the capture as may be, to the judge or judges of such court as aforesaid, to be examined upon oath, and make answer to the interrogatories which may be propounded touching the interest or property of the ship or vessel, and her lading; and at the same time you shall deliver or cause to be delivered to the judge or judges, all passes, sea briefs, charter parties, bills of lading, tickets, letters, and other documents and writings found on board, proving the said papers by the affidavit of yourself or of some other person present at the capture, to be produced as they were received, without fraud, addition, subtraction, or embezzlement.

5. You shall keep and preserve every ship or vessel and cargo by you taken, until they shall, by a sentence of a court properly authorised, be adjudged lawful prizes; not selling, spoiling, wasting, or diminishing the same, or breaking the bulk thereof, nor suffering any such thing to be done.

6. If you, or any of your officers or crew, shall, in cold blood, kill or maim, or by torture or otherwise, cruelly, inhumanly, and contrary to common usage, and the practice of civilized nations in war, treat any person or persons surprised in the ship or vessel you shall take, the offender shall be severely punished.

7. You shall, by all convenient opportunities, send to Congress written accounts of the captures you shall make, with the number and names of the captives, copies of your journal from time to time, and intelligence of what may occur or be discovered concerning the designs of the enemy, and the destinations, motions, and operations of their fleets and armies.

8. One-third, at least, of your whole company shall be land-men.

9. You shall not ransom any prisoners or captives, but shall dispose of them in such manner as the Con-

gress, or if that be not sitting in the Colony whither they shall be brought, as the general assembly, convention, or council, or committee of safety of such Colony shall direct.

10. You shall observe all such further instructions as Congress shall hereafter give in the premises, when you shall have notice thereof.

11. If you shall do any thing contrary to these instructions, or to others hereafter to be given, or willingly suffer such thing to be done, you shall not only forfeit your commission, and be liable to an action for the breach of the condition of your bond, but be responsible to the party grieved for damages sustained by such malversation.

Resolved, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of James Mease, commissary, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That the pay of the auditor of accounts be at the rate of one thousand and sixty-six dollars, and two-thirds of a dollar per annum.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow morning resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, April 4, 1776.*

Resolved, That the treasurers be directed to take Colonel Belletre's bills drawn on some of his friends or correspondents in Canada, and not upon General Carleton.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To John de Hart, for provisions furnished by Archibald Campbell, the sum of 17.9 dollars.

Ordered, That the said account be paid.

Resolved, That an order for 100 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mons. Le Fontaine, for his services in Canada.

Agreeable to the order of the day,  
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the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported that the committee had taken into consideration the matters referred to them, and had come to sundry resolutions, which he was ordered to deliver in.

The resolutions agreed to by the committee of the whole Congress being read,

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred the memorial from James M<sup>c</sup> Knight, and the letter from Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Donald, George Gillespie, and T. W. Saunders, brought in their report, which was read. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the committee of inspection and observation of the county of Burlington, be requested to make sale of the sloop Sally, whereof the said James M<sup>c</sup> Knight was prize master, and which was lately run ashore by him, within the said county, together with her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo on board, at public auction; and after deducting the charges of securing and selling the same, to pay one moiety of the surplus to the said James M<sup>c</sup> Knight for salvage, and retain the other moiety thereof, for the owner or owners.

That Messrs. Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Donald, George Gillespie, and T. W. Saunders, who have lately come into the Colony of New-Jersey from the British West India islands, where, and in Great-Britain, they have considerable property remaining, be excused from entering into the militia of the said Colony, and from signing the association; provided always, that they be, in all other respects, subject to the like taxes and regulations with the other inhabitants of the said Colony.

The committee appointed to consider the best ways and means of supplying the army in Canada, brought in a farther report, which was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Resolved, That the sum of 53 dollars be advanced to Mons<sup>r</sup>. St. Aulaire, to be deducted out of his pay. Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Saturday.

*Saturday, April 6, 1776.*

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to supply Captain Romans with twenty-four muskets for the use of his company.

That the said committee be directed to deliver to Colonel St. Clair six pounds of powder and four pounds of lead, for the use of the rifle company in his battalion.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole, and the same being twice read, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

Resolved, That any goods, wares, and merchandise, except staves and empty casks, other than shaken or knocked down casks for molasses, may be exported from the Thirteen United Colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries, as are not subject to the King of Great-Britain, to any parts of the world, which are not under the dominion of the said king; provided that no vessel be permitted to export any greater number of shaken or knocked down molasses casks, than the same vessel is capable of carrying, when they shall be filled with molasses.

Resolved, That any goods, wares, and merchandises, except such as are of the growth, production, or manufacture of, or brought from any country under the dominion of the King of Great-Britain, and except East-India tea, may be imported from any other parts of the world, to the Thirteen United Colonies, by the inha-

inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subject to the said king; liable, however, to all such duties and impositions as now are, or may hereafter be laid by any of the said Colonies.

Resolved, That nothing herein contained shall be understood to prevent such future commercial regulations, as shall be thought just and necessary by these United Colonies, or their respective legislatures.

Resolved, That no slaves be imported into any of the Thirteen United Colonies.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions in the several Colonies, to appoint proper officers at convenient places in their respective Colonies, to take bonds in adequate penalties, for observing the regulations made by the Congress, or assemblies, or conventions, concerning trade, and for securing the observation of such parts of the association, as are not inconsistent therewith; and that the obligor shall, within eighteen months after the departure of the vessel, produce to such officers a certificate under the hands and seals of three or more reputable merchants, residing at the port or place where the cargo shall be delivered, that the same was there unladed, and take manifests upon oath, of the cargoes exported and imported, and keep fair accounts and entries thereof, give bills of health when desired, grant registers shewing the property of the vessels cleared out, and sign certificates that the requisites for qualifying vessels to trade, have been complied with: and that the fees of the said officers be stated by the respective assemblies or conventions. Provided always, that no prosecution upon any of the said bonds, shall be commenced, but within three years after the date thereof.

Resolved, That all goods, wares,

and merchandises, except such as are made prize of, which shall be imported directly or indirectly from Great-Britain or Ireland, into any of these United Colonies, contrary to the regulations established by Congress, shall be forfeited and disposed of, agreeable to such rules as shall be made by the several assemblies or conventions, and shall be liable to prosecution and condemnation in any court erected or to be erected for the determination of maritime affairs, in the Colony where the seizure shall be made.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to bring in a resolution for disposing and using the tea now in these Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Jay, and Mr. M'Kean.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Robert Erwin, waggon-master for William M'Carty's and Richard Key's teams to Virginia with powder, each thirty days and ferriages, the sum of 250.5 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The committee to whom the letters from General Schuyler of the 7th and 19th, and from W. Building, Esq; chairman of the convention of New-York, of the 26th of March last, were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That the committee of inspection and observation of Albany be desired to examine, state, and settle the accounts of expences incurred in the taking of Ticonderoga and Crown-Point, which shall be laid before them by General Schuyler, and report the same to Congress.

Resolved, That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Northern Department, be desired to assure the Indians that Congress will do every thing in their power to procure goods for

for them, and hope they shall soon accomplish it.

Resolved, That Robert Yates be appointed secretary to the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Northern Department, and be allowed at the rate of two hundred and fifty dollars by the year.

Resolved, That the remainder of the report be postponed.

A letter from General Washington of the 27th of March. And,

A letter from Brigadier-General Heath being received and read,

Resolved, That the letter from General Washington with the papers inclosed, be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

Resolved, That the sum of 100,000 dollars be sent to New-York for the use of the army there, in the service of the United Colonies.

The committee for prisoners brought in a report which was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Resolved, That the delegates of Virginia be directed to write to their convention or committee, or council of safety, to collect and forward to the treasurers of the United Colonies, what gold and silver they can procure, and to draw on the president for the amount thereof, at the rate of eight dollars for half joes, weighing nine penny weight.

The committee on qualifications, having recommended Samuel Checkley, as a proper person to fill a vacancy of an ensign in the third Pennsylvania battalion :

Ordered, That a commission be granted to the said Samuel Checkley accordingly.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Tuesday next.

*Tuesday, April 9, 1776.*

Resolved, That the sum of 200,000 dollars be sent to New-York, for the use of the continental forces there.

A list of prisoners brought from Canada by Major Zedwitz, and a letter of the 4th from John Nelson,

chairman of the committee of Brunswick, respecting prisoners brought to that place; also a letter from Col. Hallet of the Delaware battalion, being laid before Congress and read,

Resolved, That they be referred to the committee on prisoners.

A letter of the 5th from Captain Brice, a prisoner at Brunswick, was presented to Congress and read, whereupon,

Resolved, That Captain Brice be permitted to come to Philadelphia, in order to consult a physician, and there wait the orders of Congress.

A letter of the 6th of March from Brigadier-General Wooster, and a letter of the 26th of the same month, from General Schuyler, were laid before Congress and read.

The Congress proceeded to the election of an auditor-general, and the ballots being taken and examined,

John Gibson, Esq; was elected.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on prisoners, whereupon,

Resolved, That Captain Thomas Gamble be not exchanged, there being no cartel settled.

Resolved, That Captain Duncan Campbell, be permitted to reside with his wife and family, in the city of Burlington in New-Jersey.

Resolved, That the committee on prisoners be directed to write to Gen. Schuyler, and take his opinion, whether Allan McDonald, and the other hostages taken in Tryon county may, consistent with the public safety, be permitted to return to their respective homes on their parole.

Resolved, That a list of the prisoners of war in each Colony be made out and transmitted to the house of assembly, convention, council, or committee of safety of such Colony respectively, and that they be authorized and requested to cause a strict observance of the terms on which such prisoners have been enlarged, and also

also take especial care that none of those confined by order of Congress be suffered to escape; and also that the allowance to each prisoner be punctually paid by the president of the convention, or of the council, or committee of safety of the Colony in which he resides; and where there are no conventions, by the speakers of assembly, which said presidents or speakers, are hereby authorized, from time to time, to draw for the sums advanced in pursuance of this resolution, upon the president of Congress.

Resolved, That Brigadier-General Prescott, upon subscribing the parole ordered, be enlarged from his present confinement.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Lewis Nicola, for repairs done at the old goal in this city, fitted up for the reception of troops, the sum of 226 dollars.

To Joseph Page, for his service in attending the powder waggons to Virginia, the sum of 55 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Benjamin Harrison, Esq:

To Jacob Garrigues, for transcribing minutes, letters, &c. for Congress, the sum of 48.2 dollars.

To John Bruce, for 402 tin cartouch boxes, the sum of 17.42 dollars.

To John Armer and Samuel Allen, for bringing baggage, &c. belonging to Messrs. Dulhunt and Gamilli, from New-York to Philadelphia, the sum of 21 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Sameul Allen.

To sundry persons for horse-hire, provisions, &c. the sum of 12.5 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Alsop, Esq;

To Clement Biddle for provisions, &c. for the British troops of the 7th and 26th regiments who are prisoners, the sum of 294 dollars, and for Wampum for the southern department, the sum of 59 dollars.

To Ludowic Kuhn, for boarding part of Captain Romans's company of matrosses, the sum of 59.8 dollars.

To William Shepherd, for two horses sold by him to General Lee, and for sundry articles of Geers, the sum of 175.7 dollars.

To Matthias Slough, for provisions for the 7th and 26th regiments of British troops from the 26th Feb. to the 21st March, the sum of 193.3 dollars.

Ordered, That the above accounts be paid.

Lord Stirling having, agreeable to the order of Congress of the 19th of March last, appointed persons to value the boat of Michael Kearney, jun. and transmitted to Congress the valuation by them made, amounting to 725 dollars.

Ordered, that the same paid to the said Michael Kearney.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, April 10, 1776.*

Two letters of the 1st from Gen. Washington were laid before Congress and read: also a letter of the 8th from John Connoly.

Resolved, That the letter from General Washington be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

The committee to whom the report on Indian affairs in the Middle Department, and the petition of Capt. White Eyes were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon.

Resolved, That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department, or any one of them, be desired to employ for reasonable salaries a minister of the gospel, to reside among the Delaware Indians, and instruct them in the Christian religion; a schoolmaster to teach their youth reading, writing, and arithmetic; also a black-smith to do the work of the Indians in the Middle Department.

Resolved, That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department,



partment, be desired to provide at the expence of the United Colonies for the entertainment of the sachems and warriors of the Indians, and their attendants and messengers, with the accustomed hospitality, when they come to Pittsburgh to treat or give intelligence of public affairs, or upon a visit.

Resolved, That the commissioners for Indian affairs, be desired to acquaint the Indians in their respective departments, that Congress have formed a plan for importing goods to supply their necessities.

That the commissioners for Indian affairs be desired to enquire and report the cause of the discontent of the Indians in the Middle Department, what measures may be pursued to restore quiet and harmony, and to use their utmost endeavours in the mean time to prevent hostilities.

Resolved, That although the prosperity of Dartmouth College in the colony of New-Hampshire, is a desirable object, it is neither seasonable nor prudent to contribute towards its relief or support out of the public treasury.

Resolved, That so soon as conveniently may be, a treaty be held between the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department, and the nations of Indians to the westward; and that the said commissioners be desired to appoint the time and place of meeting for that purpose, and give the Indians information thereof.

Resolved, That it be referred to Captain George Morgan, Aeneas Mackay, Esq; and Captain John Neville, to adjust and determine all matters of difference between Coquataginta or Captain White Eyes, and Messrs. Bernard Gratz, and Michael Gratz; and that the arbitrators, in case either of the parties, to whom it is recommended to submit to their award, shall refuse to abide thereby, report the reasons of

such refusal with a state of the case, and any other matters they shall think fit, to Congress.

That disputes which shall arise between any of the white people and the Indians in their dealings, (if the latter will consent) be determined by arbitrators chosen, one by each of the parties, and another by the commissioners for Indian affairs, or when they are absent, by the agent in the department where the Indian party resides.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of an agent for Indian affairs in the Middle Department, and the ballots being taken and examined,

George Morgan, Esq; was elected.

Resolved, That the sum of 300 dollars be presented to Capt. White Eyes.

Resolved, That George Morgan, Esq; the agent for Indian affairs in the Middle Department, be empowered to purchase for Captain White Eyes, two horses with two saddles and bridles, and that the treasurers be directed to pay to the said George Morgan, a sum not exceeding 100 dollars for defraying the expences thereof.

Resolved, That the following speech be delivered to Captain White Eyes to-morrow morning.

“ Brother Capt. White Eyes,

“ We have not been unmindful of our promise made to you and your nation the 16th of December. We now thank you for your speech to us the 2d of last month.”

“ Brothers the Delawares,

“ At the council fire at Pittsburgh, last fall, and since by our Brother Captain White Eyes, who hath been all the winter with us, you requested our assistance to promote peace and useful knowledge among you, particularly the knowledge of the Christian religion. We rejoice brothers, to find you thus disposed, and will, as early as we can, provide a suitable minister and schoolmaster, and a sober

man

man to instruct you in agriculture. These things we agreed to do, brothers, at your request, and to convince you, that we wish to advance your happiness, and that there may be a lasting union between us, and that as you express it, we may become one people. The introduction of useful arts among you will be effected, we apprehend, by encouraging handicraft men to settle and reside in your country. The method of doing this, must be left to your discretion.

" Brothers,

" We desire you will make it known among all the Indian nations to the westward, that we are determined to cultivate peace and friendship with them, and that we will endeavour by making the best regulations in our power, to prevent any of our people wronging them in any manner, or taking their lands; and that we will strive to put the trade between us on such a footing as will secure the peace and promote the interest of all parties; and we expect, that all the wise men of every Indian nation, will use their influence for the same purpose."

" Brothers,

" We have named George Morgan, Esq: as agent under our commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department, and we desire you will confer with him on whatever business you may have with us. We hope you will inform him of all public matters. We recommend him to your friendship."

" Brothers,

" You tell us, that your uncles, our brothers, the Wiandots have given your nation a large tract of country, comprehended between the river Ohio on the south, the west branch of the river Muskingham and Sandusky on the west, Lake Erie on the north, and Presqui Isle on the east."

" Brothers,

" Harken to our advice. As we

are informed that your uncles—our brothers the Six Nations claim most of those lands, we recommend it to you to obtain their approbation of this grant to you from the Wiandots in public council, and have it put on record. Such a step will prevent uneasiness and jealousy on their part, and continue the confidence and friendship which subsists between you and them. We wish to promote the lasting peace and happiness of all our brothers the Indian nations, who live with us on this great island. As far as your settlement and security may depend upon us, you may be assured of our protection. We shall take all the care in our power, that no interruption or disturbance be given you by our people, nor shall any of them be suffered by force or fraud to deprive you of any of your lands, or to settle them without a fair purchase from you, and your free consent. If contrary to your intention, any injury should be offered to you by any of our people, inform us of it, and we shall be always ready to procure you satisfaction and redress."

" Brother Capt. White Eyes,

" We desire you will inform your nation, your uncles the Six Nations, and Wiandots, your grand-children the Shawanese, and all the other nations, what you have seen and heard among us, and exhort them to keep fast hold of the covenant chain of friendship, which we have so lately repaired and strengthened. As you are now about to depart, we present you with some money to buy cloaths and necessaries, and pay your expences, and wish you a good journey, and bid you farewell."

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, April 11, 1776.*

A letter of the 7th, from General Putnam at New-York, with sundry papers enclosed was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That an order for 10,000

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dollars

dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Carpenter Wharton commissary, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Lieutenant-colonel Zedwitz for expences in curing a wound received by him in falling from the walls of Quebec, and his expences from thence to Philadelphia, the sum of 255.6 dollars.

To John Hales for carriage hire, &c. for the commissioners going to Canada, the sum of 223 dollars.

To Oliver Woolcot, Esq; for his expences in attending a treaty with the Six Nations at Albany, the sum of 60 dollars.

To Dr. Jonathan Pitts, for attending the prisoners at Reading, the sum of 76.6 dollars; and for medicines, &c. provided for the troops in the Middle Department, the sum of 134.6 dollars, amounting together to the sum of 211.2 dollars.

To the following persons for boarding General Lee's guard, viz.

Richard Jacobs, the sum of 6.4 dollars; William Staddleman, 7.4; William M'Dowell, 3.4; Lawrence Fegan, 8.4; Jacob Wyncop, 13.6; Michael Gallagher, 1.8; John Kerlin, 8.6; Charles Stultz, 8.7

To Captain Long, for so much advanced by him to Captain John Nelson, of one of the rifle companies, the sum of 10.7 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

Resolved, That the committee of claims allow for the support of the hostages sent by Gen. Schuyler from Tryon county, the sum of two dollars a-week.

Resolved, That two new members be added to the cannon committee, in the room of two who are absent.

The members chosen, Mr. Clinton and Mr. Whipple.

Resolved, That the secret com-

mittee be directed to supply the delegates of Maryland with one ton of powder for the use of the inhabitants of the eastern shore in that Colony.

Resolved, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to provide proper barracks or quarters for such of the continental troops as may be from time to time in the city of Philadelphia.

Resolved, That the commanding officer at New-York, be directed to discharge the militia of New-Jersey who are in the pay of the continent.

That the commanding officer at New-York be directed to discharge the whole or such parts of the militia of New-York and Connecticut, now in the pay of the continent, as the public service will permit.

A petition from Eliphalet Dyer and William Williams; in behalf of the colony of Connecticut, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth that the Colony has advanced large sums of money for the continent over and above what have been paid them, that though they have used their utmost diligence they have not yet been able to prepare a full state of their accounts to lay before Congress, and as their treasury is exhausted, and the Colony and the public interest in danger of suffering for want of supplies, praying that the Congress would advance to the Colony the sum of fifty thousand pounds lawful money, in part of their advances.

Resolved, That the sum of 166, 666.2 dollars be advanced to the colony of Connecticut, on account of their advances for the service of the continent, the said Colony to be accountable.

Captain White Eyes being called in, the speech was delivered to him, and the money paid.

Resolved, That fifty dollars be paid to Isaac Stille the interpreter.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the conventions and committees or councils

councils of safety of Virginia and North Carolina, to provide for the maintenance and security of the prisoners made of the enemy in their Colonies, agreeable to the regulations of Congress for the support of prisoners, and that the expence thereof be defrayed by the Continent.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire into the truth of the report respecting Gov. Tryon's exacting an oath from persons going by the packet, and to ascertain the fact by affidavits taken before a chief justice, or other chief magistrate.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Wilson.

Resolved, That the sum of thirty dollars be advanced to John Harkess, a wounded soldier, who was discharged at Cambridge without any pay.

Information being given that Mr. Hewes, a prisoner, has been defrauded of a large quantity of goods.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire into the truth of this matter, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Huntingdon, and Mr. Duane.

The committee, to whom the petition of John Secord was referred, brought in their report which was read.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, and committees or councils of safety of the United Colonies, to use their best endeavours in communicating to foreign nations the resolutions of Congress relative to trade.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, April 12, 1776.*

A letter of the 21st March from W. H. Drayton, president of the convention of South Carolina, with a copy of the act of parliament prohibiting all trade and commerce with the American Colonies. Also,

A letter of the 10th instant from Colonel John Haslet, inclosing an ac-

count of the engagement between the detachment of the Delaware battalion at Lewes, and a tender of the Roebuck; also informing that another company is wanted at Lewes Town, and that he has ordered one to march thither, were laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the conduct of Colonel Haslet in ordering another company to Lewes Town, be approved.

The committee on qualifications having recommended James Hunter as a fit person to fill the oldest vacancy of second lieutenant, and Joel Westcoat as a suitable person to fill the second oldest vacancy of second lieutenant in the third Pennsylvania battalion,

Resolved, That commissions be granted to them accordingly.

Resolved, That the treasurers be directed to pay Mr. Price the sum of 16,000 dollars in specie in part of the sum ordered to be advanced to him and Mr. Haywood.

A petition from Colonel James Easton was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Alexander.

Resolved, That the assemblies, conventions, and committees or councils of safety of the Colonies respectively, in which prisoners are, or shall chuse, or be appointed to reside, be empowered to remove such prisoners from place to place within the same Colonies, as often as to such assemblies, conventions, or committees or councils of safety respectively, it shall seem proper, having regard to the former resolutions of Congress concerning prisoners.

Resolved, That Mr. Alexander be appointed a member of the marine committee, in the room of Mr. Chase who is absent.



A memorial from the Scotch hostages was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the committee of claims.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Henry Holler, for rifles and cash furnished to Captain Nelson's company of rifle-men, the sum of 364.8 dollars to be charged to said company; and for provisions for said company, the sum of 171.3 dollars, and for necessaries provided for prisoners at Reading, 1203 dollars, and for his pay as quarter-master in procuring provisions, 59 dollars; for provisions made for receiving the prisoners from Johnstown, the sum of 240 dollars; for expresses and incidental charges, the sum of 62.9 dollars, the whole amounting to 2101 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid,  
Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, April 13, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of James Mease commissary for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

Mr. Mease having applied to Congress for advice how to conduct himself in paying the sixth Pennsylvania battalion.

Resolved, That the queries propounded by Mr. Mease be referred to the committee for procuring fire arms.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Robert Erwin, the ballance of his account for waggon hire, the sum of 436 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

A petition from the committee of the town ships of Walpack, Sandystone, and Montague, in the county of Sussex in New-Jersey, was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the commissioners for Indian

affairs, who are members of Congress.

The committee appointed to prepare a resolution for the sale and consumption of the teas now in these Colonies, brought in the same, which was read and agreed to, as follows :

Whereas by the third article of the association entered into by the late continental Congress at Philadelphia, on the 24th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1774, it was agreed, that from that day the inhabitants of the United Colonies " would not purchase nor use any tea imported on account of the East India company, or any on which duty had been or should be paid, and from and after the first day of March then next following, they would not purchase or use any East Indian tea whatever." And whereas it has been represented to this Congress, that the time as aforesaid limited for the consumption of the tea then on hand was too short; whereby many zealous friends to the American cause, who had imported large quantities of that commodity, with design not merely to advance their fortunes, but to counteract the plan then pursued by the ministry, and India company, to introduce and sell in these Colonies tea subject to duty, are likely to become great sufferers; the greater part of the estates of many of them being vested in that article, and they by that means rendered incapable not only of paying their debts and maintaining their families, but also of vigorously exerting themselves in the service of their country: and whereas it was originally the design of Congress, that all India tea, which had been imported agreeable to the tenor of the said association, might be sold and consumed, but the time limited for that purpose proving too short.

Resolved, That all India tea imported as aforesaid, expressly excepting all teas imported by or on account of the East India company, now remaining

maining on hand in these Colonies be sold and used.

And whereas from the future importation of tea being prohibited, some tea-holders may be tempted to avail themselves of the scarcity which will be occasioned by it, and exact exorbitant prices for an article of little real value in itself, and which owes its worth to an habit in many respects pernicious to the inhabitants of these Colonies.

Resolved, therefore, that bohea tea ought not to be sold by retail in the smallest quantities at a higher price in any Colony, than at the rate of three fourth parts of a dollar per pound; and other teas at such a price as shall be regulated by the committees of the town or county, where the tea is sold; and that all persons, who shall either give or take a greater price for it, ought to be considered as enemies to the American cause, and treated accordingly. And it is earnestly recommended to all committees of inspection and observation as well to be vigilant in carrying this resolve into execution, as those which prohibit the importation of India tea from any part of the world, it being the desire of Congress to exclude all teas, except such as may make part of the cargoes of prizes taken by ships of war or privateers belonging to these Colonies.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to Lieutenant Colonel Hartley one quarter cask of powder, to repay so much by him borrowed for the use of the contingent.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the committee of safety of New-Jersey, brought in a draught, which being read was agreed to.

Ordered, That the same be transcribed, signed by the president and transmitted.

The committee appointed to consider the representation and queries of

James Mease respecting the sixth battalion of troops commanded by Col. Irvine, brought in their report which was read. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the certificates of magistrates or other respectable inhabitants of the county of Cumberland, who have inspected and examined the companies of the said battalion, shall in this instance justify the pay-master in paying such companies agreeable to the said certificates, the muster-master being absent.

That the supernumerary privates, that have been enlisted and are armed and clothed, be continued and paid.

That the officers in the said battalion be paid for their subsistence since the recruiting service has been over, at the rates used in other battalions.

That the claim of the ensign in Captain Wilson's company to pay and subsistence, from the time of entering into actual service, be allowed.

Resolved, That the marine committee be empowered to build two galleys, capable of carrying two 36 or 42 pounders, to oppose the enemy's vessels in bays and harbours.

Resolved, That the committee for casting cannon be directed to contract for the casting forty howitzers, with a sufficient quantity of shells.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the application of James Hughes, late town major of Montreal, and now one of the prisoners of the Thirteen United Colonies, brought in their report; wherein they represent,

“ That it appears to them that Mrs. Hughes, the wife of the said James Hughes on or about the 5th of February last, bargained with a certain Jabez West, for divers goods and merchandize in her possession at Montreal, for which the said West, as the said J. Hughes alleges, agreed to pay £905 11 9  $\frac{1}{4}$  sterling money of Great Britain, and £151 1 9 Halifax currency, in gold and silver to the said Hughes, within eighteen days

days from that time, upon which payment being made, the goods were to be delivered at Albany, to the said West, by a certain John Stevenson of Albany, to whom they were to be sent at the expence of the said West; that the said West paid to the said Hughes, 240 dollars in part, but it was, as the said Hughes alledges, agreed that if the residue of the money was not paid within the time limited, then the 240 dollars were to be forfeited, and the goods not to be delivered; that the goods arrived at Albany, and were in the possession of Mr. Stevenson, who, on the 11th of March last, by some means or other, was induced to deliver the goods to West, though he paid no money; that the said West gave a bond to the said Stevenson, payable to the said Hughes, for £1609 18 8, continental currency, on the 9th of April instant, without any authority from the said Hughes, as he alledges; that the said West proceeded with the goods, immediately on the receipt of them, to some of the eastern Colonies, and it is apprehended to Connecticut. Upon the whole, the committee are of opinion, that the said Hughes may probably lose his debt from West, without the interposition of Congress, or their permission to him to go in pursuit of the said West." Whereupon,

Resolved, That Governor Trumbull, of the colony of Connecticut, be desired to direct the most effectual method, according to law, to be taken for securing the person of Jabez West, or his effects, to the value of the debt due to James Hughes, if either can be found in his government; and to see that justice be done in the premises.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday next.

*Monday, April 15, 1776.*

A letter of the 4th from General Washington, enclosing a letter from Governor Cooke, and an account of

the powder supplied the army at Cambridge, by the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, from the 10th of June last; also a letter of the 2d from General Schuyler, with eight papers enclosed, being laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the said letters with the papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

The committee to whom the petition from the committees of Walpack, &c. was referred, brought in their report, which was agreed to. Whereupon,

Resolved, That an order be drawn by the chairman of the secret committee upon Henry Wisner, in favour of the petitioners for 200 lb. of powder, they paying for the same.

That 1000 flints be delivered to the petitioners.

That the petitioners be desired to send Garret Broadhead, Esq; to the nearest Indian settlement, in order to discover whether any uneasiness subsists among the Indians in that part of the country, and if it subsists, from what cause it arises.

That a letter be written by the President of the Congress to General Schuyler, to inform him of the apprehension of the inhabitants on the western boundaries of New-Jersey from the Indians, to request him to direct proper inquiries to be made, whether there be any foundation for such apprehensions.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of John Secord,

Resolved, That a certified copy of the said petition be transmitted to the governor of Connecticut; that he be requested to cause inquiry to be made into the truth of the facts therein stated, and if found true, that it be recommended to him to cause restitution to be made to the petitioner.

Resolved, That it be again recommended to the settlers at Wyoming and

and the Susquennah river, as well those under Pennsylvania as those under Connecticut, to cultivate harmony, to consider themselves as jointly interested in the event of the American cause, and not by mutual acts of violence or oppression, to injure that union that happily subsists between all the Colonies, and on which their welfare so much depends.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to supply the inhabitants of Monmouth county in New-Jersey with 300 lb. of powder, they paying for the same.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to bring in a resolution, whereby persons resident, having property in America, who assist any of the enemies of the United Colonies in the capture of vessels or goods, may be made liable to make good the damages to the sufferers.

The members chosen, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Wythe.

A petition from Moses Kirkland, a prisoner, was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the committee on prisoners.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the ways and means of supplying the troops in Canada. Whereupon,

Resolved, That Mr. R. Morris be directed to purchase bills of exchange to the amount of three thousand pounds sterling, and deliver the same to Mr. Price, and that Mr. Morris be indemnified for any loss that may arise by indorsing them.

That the sum of 13,333 $\frac{1}{3}$  dollars be advanced to Mr. Price, to be employed by him in the service of the continent, in Canada, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That the officers of the rifle battalion, and independent rifle companies, be authorized and directed to recruit the said battalion and companies, and enlist the men as

speedily as possible; and that their re-enlistment be for two years from the expiration of their present term, liable to be discharged sooner, if Congress shall think proper, upon receiving a month's pay advance.

A petition from Thomas Leaming, jun. in behalf of the committee of inspection for the county of Cape May, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth the defenceless state of that part of the country, and praying for a supply of powder and lead, and that two companies of the continental forces may be stationed there.

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, April 16, 1776.*

A letter of the 9th from Commodore E. Hopkins, inclosing a list of the cannon and stores brought from Providence, and a letter of the 14th from the committee of Baltimore, inclosing copies of intercepted letters from the secretary of state to Governor Eden; also a letter of the 8th from General Thomas, were laid before Congress and read.

Ordered, That the secretary publish an extract of the letter from Commodore Hopkins.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter from the committee of Baltimore, and the papers enclosed, came to the following resolutions:

Whereas information has been this day laid before Congress, from which there is great reason to believe that Robert Eden, Esq; governor of Maryland, has lately carried on a correspondence with the British ministry, highly dangerous to the liberties of America.

Resolved therefore, That the council of safety of Maryland be earnestly requested immediately to cause the person and papers of Governor Eden to be seized and secured, and such of the papers as relate to the American dispute



dispute, without delay conveyed safely to Congress; and that copies of the intercepted letters from the secretary of state be inclosed to the said council of safety.

Resolved, That the council of safety of Maryland be requested to cause the person and papers of Alexander Ross to be immediately seized and secured, and that the papers be sent safely to Congress.

And to prevent the said Alexander Ross having any opportunity to escape.

Resolved, That the like request be made to the committees of observation for Baltimore and Frederic counties in Maryland, in one of which counties the said Alexander Ross probably now is.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Isaac Melchior, for expences from Montreal to Philadelphia, including a part of St. Luke La Corne's expences to Albany, the sum of 34.7 dollars.

To Leonard Melchior for boarding M'Donald twenty days the sum of 16 dollars.

To William Chew, for riding express to North-Carolina and back, including ferriages, the sum of 90 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to J. Hughes, Esq.

To Samuel Purviance, jun. the sum of 133.3 dollars, money advanced by Colonel Charles Beatty, to Captain James Grier, and that the same ought to be paid and charged to the said James Grier.

To Anthony Tricker, for boarding Donald M'Donald and others, of the Scots prisoners taken by General Schuyler, near Johnstown, the sum of 150 dollars.

To Peletiah Webster, for purchasing goods for the continent, including some incidental charges, the sum of 66.3 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to supply the inhabitants of Monmouth county with 500 flints.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a clerk or assistant to the auditor general.

Mr. William Webb was elected.

A letter of the 15th from H. Beaumont, surgeon of the 26th regiment, was laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the committee on prisoners.

Resolved, That the sum of 1000 dollars be paid to Messrs. Price and Haywood in consideration of their extraordinary services in Canada.

Whereas much inconvenience may be derived to the public from committees, others than the committee of safety in each Colony, on the public post roads, stopping and opening the mails, and detaining letters from the constitutional post.

Resolved, That no committee, but the council or committee of safety in each Colony, or such persons as they shall on extraordinary occasions authorise, shall stop the constitutional post, open the mail, or detain any letters therefrom.

Resolved, That the president write to Commodore Hopkins, and direct him to send a complete list and state of the stores taken and brought from Providence, with the sizes, &c. and in case he should have left New London, that Governor Trumbull be desired to order a list of the stores left at New London by Commodore Hopkins, to be made out and transmitted to Congress.

Resolved, That the cannon and such other of the stores as are not necessary for the fleet, be landed and left at New London, and that such of the cannon and wheels as Governor Trumbull shall direct, may be employed for the defence of that harbour, during the pleasure of the Congress.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Wed.

*Wednesday, April 17, 1776.*

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To John Avery, jun. for riding express from Commodore Hopkins and back again, the sum of 40.7 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Resolved, That the marine committee be instructed to recommend to Congress proper persons for commission officers for the frigates now building, and that the warrant officers be appointed by the said committee, and that they fit said frigates for sea with all expedition.

That the marine committee recommend to Congress proper persons to be agents for prizes in the several Colonies.

That a bounty of eight dollars be allowed by the public to the owner of every American vessel, for every able seamen that he shall import into the United Colonies, over and above the number the said vessel carried out; and that foreigners importing able seamen over and above the ship's company, and discharging them in the American ports, shall be intitled to the same bounty.

Resolved, That the nomination or appointment of captains or commanders of continental vessels shall not establish rank, which is to be settled by Congress before commissions are granted.

The Congress having proceeded to the election of captains for the two frigates building in Massachusetts-Bay.

William Manly, and Isaac Cozneau were elected.

Resolved, That the secret committee be empowered to give orders for the arming and manning abroad any of the ships or vessels employed in the importation of cargoes for the continental account; the expences and charges of such armaments to be paid by the said committee; they receiving for the public service, on the arri-

val of every vessel, all the arms, ammunition, and stores.

Resolved, That the secret committee be empowered to import cargoes of salt on the continental account, in such ships or vessels as they employ to carry outward cargoes, and are obliged to insure on their return.

Resolved, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to permit John Young, jun. and John Smith to carry to Virginia all such arms as they have already purchased, or shall purchase in Pennsylvania, for the use of the continental army in the said colony of Virginia, before the first day of May next; not to exceed one thousand stand in the whole.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to supply Mr. Thomas Leaming with 200lb. of powder, for the militia of Cape May, he paying for the same.

Resolved, That the commanding officer at New-York be directed to order two companies of Colonel Dayton's battalion to march to Cape May, and there to remain till farther orders.

Resolved, That the petition of Dr. Jackson be referred to the committee of claims.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, April 18, 1776.*

A letter of the 15th from General Washington; and,

A letter of the 7th of November last, from the Rev. Samuel Langdon, accompanied with a letter from General Putnam, and Colonels Glover, Bridge, Fry, and Prescott. Also,

A letter from James Warren, Esq; paymaster-general, desiring leave to resign, were laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That the said letters be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Read, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Braxton.

A letter from Elizabeth Seymour, widow

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widow of the late master of the Cabbot, were laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the marine committee.

Resolved, That the committee on Indian affairs be directed to prepare and report a draught of instructions to George Morgan, Esq; agent under the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department.

A letter of the 6th from Brigadier-General Lewis, and a letter of the same date from Major General Lee, being received and read, were referred to Mr. Read, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Braxton.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Dr. Samuel Treat, for medicine, and for attending the troops at Burlington, the sum of 273.7 dollars.

To John Bull, Esq; for expences in conducting money to the camp at Cambridge, the sum of 155 dollars.

To Jacob Ming, for waggonage, the sum of 107.5 dollars.

To Robert Kennedy, for necessaries furnished Captain Morgan's company, the sum of 544 dollars, of which sum 189.2 being for rifles, shirts, &c. to be charged to the said company.

To Thaddeus Burr, for money paid by him for horse-hire, &c. the sum of 37.2 dollars, which ought to be charged to Jacob Heltzheimur, express master.

To sundries, on certificates produced by Thomas Johnson, Esq; for provisions, &c. for General Lee's guard, the sum of 10.7 dollars, and for a rifle delivered to Captain Cressap's company, to be charged to the said company, the sum of 10.6 dollars.

To Jane Allen, for necessaries to several companies of continental troops, the sum of 52.9 dollars, of which sum 40 dollars ought to

be charged to the first Pennsylvania battalion, and deducted from the commissary's account.

To Dr. Hall Jackson, for his services as surgeon, the sum of 130 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Elbridge Gerry, Esq.

To William Smith, for medicines, instruments, &c. for the Delaware battalion, the sum of 257.4 dollars.

To Timothy Shallor, for expences in bringing prisoners from Egg-Harbour, the sum of 37.5 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The marine committee having recommended gentlemen for captains of the Hornet and Wasp, Congress proceeded to an election, and the ballots being taken and examined.

William Hallock was elected captain of the Hornet, and Alexander, captain of the Wasp.

The committee appointed to consider the propriety of establishing a war office, brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, April 19, 1776.*

A letter from Governor Trumbull, with a petition from Noah Philips, being laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That they be referred to the committee on qualifications.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to examine and ascertain the value of the several species of gold and silver coins, current in these Colonies, and the proportions they ought to bear to Spanish milled dollars.

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Wythe, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Whipple.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Peter Brunner, for necessaries furnished to Captain Nelson's company by himself and Abraham Vanhorn, the sum of 25.2 dollars, which

which ought to be charged to Captain Nelson.

To Mary Miller, for provisions, &c. furnished to General Lee's guard, the sum of 16.5 dollars.

To Jacob Frantz, for horse-hire, and carrying Brigadier-General Woodtke's baggage to New-York, the sum of 47.5 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

Resolved, That letters which are directed to any general in the continental service, commanding in a separate department, be carried free of postage, by the constitutional post.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions to George Morgan, Esq; brought in a draught, which being read was agreed to, as follows:

*To George Morgan, Esq; agent under the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department.*

" Sir,

" You are required to provide that the great belt presented to the Indians last fall at Pittsburgh, be forwarded with all convenient expedition to the sachems and warriors of the western nations, and endeavour to the utmost of your power to convince them of the good wishes and good intentions of Congress for and towards them, and to cultivate harmony and friendship between them and the White People, and to give Congress the most early intelligence of any interruption thereof, or of any disturbance which shall arise, and which you cannot quiet.

" Acquaint the Indians that Congress have formed the best plan they could devise to import foreign goods for their use, and have neglected no probable means to procure them in time, and if they should not be supplied so soon as they may be wanted, the misfortune is to be ascribed to the common enemies of them and us, who by obstructing our trade, as well as in numberless other instances, are

daily injuring and distressing both; but that we have well grounded hopes of speedy relief, in expectation of which, and of greater advantages in prospect, the present inconveniences are borne more patiently.

" All differences and disputes that shall happen between the Indians and White People, you will have adjusted and determined in the mode prescribed by a resolve of Congress, of which you have a copy: and you are directed in a particular manner to prevent as much as you are able, any impositions upon the former by those who deal with them. Treat all those people, with whom you may meet, kindly and hospitably. Inspire them with sentiments of justice and humanity, and dispose them to introduce the arts of civil and social life, and to encourage the residence of husbandmen and handicraft-men among them. Advise Congress from time to time of all occurrences that may in your opinion deserve their attention."

The committee to whom General Washington's letter of the 15th instant, as well as other letters were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration was agreed to; whereupon,

Resolved, That General Washington may order as many of the cannon and military stores, as are not necessary for the continental fleet, and which were lately brought into New-London, by the commander thereof, to any other place he may think proper; having regard only to the permission of Congress, relative to the defence of the harbour of New-London, a copy of which ought to be sent to General Washington, and also a list of the cannon and stores, as transmitted to Congress.

Resolved, That the resignation of James Warren, as paymaster-general of the army be accepted and entered accordingly, and that he be informed there are superintendants of the treasury



fury appointed, to whom he is to render his accounts and vouchers.

Resolved, That another paymaster-general be appointed, and that the general be informed thereof.

As it appears from the certificates of four colonels of regiments at Cambridge, that the Reverend Dr. Samuel Langdon, did not only perform the duty of a chaplain to their several regiments, for the space of six months, for which no other chaplain had been appointed, but also the army at large; therefore,

Resolved, That the said Dr. Langdon, having received no compensation for those services, be paid the sum of 300 dollars.

Resolved, That three tons of powder be immediately forwarded to Virginia, for the use of the army in the Southern Department.

Resolved, That General Washington be made acquainted with General Lee's request of a company of artillery, and be desired to furnish him with such a company, if it may be done consistent with the general good of the service.

That an immediate supply of arms, shoes, blankets, &c. be furnished for the troops in Virginia, and that proper persons be appointed to procure them, subject to the orders of Congress already entered into.

Resolved, That Mr. Ephraim Blaine be appointed to purchase a quantity of blankets not exceeding 5000, and also that he be directed to purchase 5000 pair of shoes to be sent to Virginia, to the commanding officer at Williamsburgh.

Resolved, That Monday next be assigned for the election of a paymaster-general.

Resolved, That Mr. Thomas Lowry, commissary, be directed to purchase and forward to General Schuyler, with all convenient dispatch, 2000 barrels of pork for the use of the army in Canada, and that he be supplied with a sum not exceeding 20,000 dollars for that purpose, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to confer with Mr. Price be directed to bring in a resolution to enable Messrs. Price and Haywood, to draw for the ballance of the money ordered to be paid them by the resolutions of the 3d and 16th of this month.

Resolved, That Messrs. Du Montesson, Hervieux, La Marque, Du Massaux, Shemit, Giasion, and Gammel, Canadian prisoners at Bristol, be permitted to come to Philadelphia in order to purchase cloaths, and other necessities, and to remain there ten days and then return to Bristol.

The committee, to whom were referred the letter from General Washington of the 4th, and the letter from General Schuyler, of the 2d of this month, brought in their report.

The committee on prisoners having collected from the journals the several resolutions respecting prisoners, and having made some amendments therein, submitted the same to Congress.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, April 22, 1776.*

Sundry letters received since the adjournment, were laid before the Congress and read, viz.

One from the committee of safety of Maryland, dated the 18th.

One from Dr. Boyd of the 19th.

One from the committee of inspection of Lancaster of the 11th,

One from the Canada commissioners, dated Saratoga, the 13th.

One from General Washington of the 19th.

One from General Schuyler of the 12th, enclosing sundry letters and papers from Canada. And,

One from the committee of inspection of West-Augusta, with sundry papers enclosed.

Resolved, That the four last with the papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. R. Lee, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Jay, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Johnson.

Resolved, That the consideration of the letter from the committee of safety

safety of Maryland, be postponed till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to prepare a resolve respecting Messrs. Price and Haywood, brought in the same; whereupon,

Resolved, That Messrs. Price and Haywood be impowered to draw bills of exchange on the president of Congress for the sum of 48,358,6 dollars, payable the 5th of July next, in specie, it being the ballance of a sum specified in a resolve of the 3d of April instant, after deducting 16,000 dollars, for which they received an order on the treasurers the 12th. And they are farther impowered to draw bills as aforesaid, for 1000 dollars, ordered to be paid them by a resolve of the 6th instant.

Resolved, That the commissioners gone to Canada be desired and impowered to settle the accounts of Messrs. Price and Haywood to the 5th of February last, or to employ proper persons to examine the same and compare the vouchers with the several articles of said accounts, and return a certificate to Congress of the ballance justly due to Messrs. Price and Haywood from the United Colonies to that date, with the vouchers for expenditures and supplies by orders of General Montgomery and General Wooster.

Resolved, That the said commissioners be requested to return to Congress a list of such persons as are accountable to the United Colonies for any part of the articles or expenditures comprised in Messrs. Price and Haywood's accounts, with the respective sum such person is chargeable with, and deliver copies thereof to the commanding officers, that the proper deductions may be made from the pay of the officers and men.

Resolved, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. Samuel Fairlamb, for the use of Colonel Wayne's battalion, he to be accountable.

The committee on qualifications having recommended Mr. Jacob Weaver, to an ensigncy which is vacant in the third Pennsylvania battalion.

Resolved, That he be appointed, and that a commission be accordingly granted to him.

The several matters referred to this day being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Tuesday, April 23, 1776.*

A letter of the 12th from Major General Ward being received and read, repeating his desire for leave to resign.

Resolved, That the resignation of Major General Ward, and of Brigadier General Fry be accepted, and that the President inform them thereof by letter.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Robert Erwin, for waggonage, the sum of 873,8 dollars.

To John Dunn, the ballance in full due to Colonel Heard's battalion, for their pay and subsistence, on the expedition to Long-Island, the sum of 24,53.7 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The marine committee having agreeable to the orders of Congress recommended gentlemen to be agents for prizes in the several Colonies.

Resolved, That Captain John Bradford be appointed for the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, Daniel Tillinghast, for Rhode Island, Nathaniel Shaw, jun. for Connecticut, Jacobus Vanzantz for New York, John Nixon, and John Maxwell Nesbit for Pennsylvania, William Lux for Maryland, John Tazewell for Virginia; Cornelius Horner for Wilmington, Richard Ellis for Newbern, and Robert Smith for Edentown in North Carolina, with power to each to appoint one or more deputies, if necessary.

The committee to whom the letters from General Washington, General Schuyler, and the letters from Canada and Pittsburgh were referred, brought

brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon,

Resolved, That the President signify to Colonel Hazen the approbation of Congress for his letter, and attention to the public good.

Resolved, That 300,000 dollars be immediately sent to General Schuyler, for supplying and paying the army in Canada.

Resolved, That the Commissioners of Congress in Canada, be desired to publish an address to the people of Canada, signifying, that Congress has been informed of injuries offered by our people to some of them; expressing our resentment at such misconduct, assuring them of our attachment to their security; inviting them to state their grievances to our commissioners, and promising ample redress to them, and exemplary punishment to the offenders.

Resolved, That instructions be sent to the Commissioners to cause justice to be done to the Canadians, agreeable to the tenor of the above resolve.

Resolved, That the commanding officer in Canada, be directed to be very attentive to military discipline, and inflict exemplary punishment on all those who violate the military regulations established by Congress.

Resolved, That General Washington be directed to send six battalions into Canada from the army at New-York.

Resolved, That a letter be written by the President to General Washington, requesting his opinion whether any farther additional troops are necessary to be sent for the reduction of Quebec, and for the security of Canada, and if he shall think more troops necessary, whether they can with safety be spared from the army now in New-York.

Resolved, That if any of the troops from New-Jersey or Pennsylvania, which were raised at five dollars a month, be sent to Canada, they shall be allowed at the rate of six dollars

and two thirds of a dollar a month, from the time they begin their march.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Wednesday, April 24, 1776.*

A memorial from the committee of inspection and observation of the city and liberties of Philadelphia was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Alexander.

Mr. R. Morris reported that in pursuance of the order of Congress, he has purchased and delivered to Mr. James Price bills of exchange to the amount of three thousand pounds sterling, for which he produced Mr. Price's receipt.

Resolved, That an order for 14,800 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. R. Morris in full for the above bills of exchange.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to confer with Mr. Price, be directed to draw up instructions to him, for his government in disposing and laying out the money put into his hands.

Resolved, That Mr. Trumbull the Commissary General be directed to provide and forward to General Schuyler, two thousand barrels of pork, with all possible dispatch, for the use of the continental army in Canada, and that the said commissary be supplied with a sum not exceeding 20,000 dollars for that purpose, he to be accountable for the same.

Resolved, That Mr. Alfop, Mr. Sherman, and Mr. Lewis be requested to purchase and forward with all convenient dispatch, to General Schuyler, for the use of the continental army in Canada, 10,000 pair of shoes, 10,000 pair of stockings; and that 15,000 dollars be advanced to them

them for those purposes, they to be accountable.

Resolved, That a letter be written to General Schuyler to inform him of the ten additional battalions lately ordered for Canada, and of the 4000 barrels of pork, and the 10,000 pair of shoes, and 10,000 pair of stockings, ordered by Congress to be sent to him; and to desire him to pursue the best means for furnishing such other necessary articles of cloathing and food as may be wanting for the continental army in Canada, having regard to such of these as Mr. Price the commissary in that province can supply there: Also that General Schuyler be desired to inform the President what quantity of gun-powder he has received for Canada since the first of January last, and that he continue, as hitherto, to give the earliest notice to Congress of the occasion for further supplies of this and other necessaries that may be wanting, and not in his power to procure.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to forward from Mr. Wisner's and Mr. Livingston's powder mills, five tons of powder to General Schuyler, to be by him forwarded to Canada.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To John Gibson, agent appointed by the commissioners for Indian affairs, for sundry services in the Middle Department by order of the commissioners, the sum of 377.9 dollars.

To John Davis for waggonage, for the 6th Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 60 dollars.

To Furman and Hunt, for provisions, &c. for the prisoners at Trenton, the sum of 183.8 dollars.

To Duncan M'Donald, the sum of 15.8 dollars, of which sum 13.6 dollars ought to be charged to Captain Hendrick's company, and 2.2 dollars to Captain Cluggage's company, for goods furnished to the said companies; and that the same

ought to be paid to Ephraim Blaine, Esq.

To Margaret Smith, for nursing two men in the small-pox, belonging to Captain Benezet's company, the sum of 24 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The convention of South-Carolina having appointed delegates to represent that colony in Congress the credentials of their appointment were presented to Congress and read, as follows:

*In Congress, Charlestown, South-Carolina, Feb. 16, 1776.*

Resolved, That Thomas Lynch, John Rutledge, Edward Rutledge, Arthur Middleton, and Thomas Heyward, jun. Esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed and fully authorised to represent this Colony in the continental Congress, for one year next ensuing.

*March 23, 1776.*

Resolved, That the delegates of this colony in continental Congress, or a majority of such of them as shall at any time be present in the said Congress, or any one of the said delegates, if no more than one shall be present, be, and they and he are, and is hereby authorised and empowered, for and in behalf of this Colony, to concert, agree to, and execute every measure, which they or he, together with a majority of the continental Congress, shall judge necessary for the defence, security, interest, and welfare of this Colony in particular, and of America in general.

Resolved, That another delegate be forthwith chosen by ballot by this Congress, to represent this Colony in the continental Congress, in addition to, and with as full powers in all respects as the delegates already chosen have, and are invested with. The Congress then proceeded to ballot for said delegate, and Thomas Lynch, jun. Esq. appearing to be, and being declared duly chosen.

Resolved,



Resolved, That Thomas Lynch, jun. Esq; be, and he is hereby appointed a sixth delegate from this Colony to represent the same in the continental Congress.

A true copy.

PETER TIMOTHY, Sec.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration General Washington's letter of the 27th of March, and after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the letter referred to them, but not having come to any determination thereon, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Resolved, That Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the letter from General Washington of the 27th of March, and the petition inclosed therein.

The other matters to this day referred, being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Thursday, April 25, 1776.*

Two letters from General Washington of the 22d and 23d, were laid before Congress and read.

Resolved, That they be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Hewes.

Resolved, That an order for 2000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Ephraim Blaine, Esq; for the purpose of purchasing shoes and blankets for the continental troops in Virginia, he to be accountable.

The committee on qualifications having recommended Thomas Holland to be a second lieutenant in the Delaware battalion, in the room of James M'Donnough, deceased, and John Corse, ensign, in the room of Thomas Holland.

Resolved, That they be accepted,

and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

The committee to whom the petition of Noah Philips was referred, brought in their report, which was agreed to; whereupon,

Resolved, That the committee of inspection of the city of Albany, be requested to adjust Mr. Noah Philips's account of services performed at Ticonderoga; and that Mr. Noah Philips be allowed and paid for his further services, including those of contractor from the time of his joining General Montgomery, at the rate of one dollar for each day, until he quitted the service, and an equivalent to a captain's rations during the said time, provided he has not already them; the latter account to be settled by General Schuyler, who is requested to pay to the said Noah Philips, what may appear to be due to him for the whole of his services aforesaid.

The committee to whom the letter from Lord Stirling of the 10th of March last, with the papers therein inclosed, was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

On application from the committee of Lower Pensneck in the county of Salem in New-Jersey.

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to sell to the said committee 75lb of gunpowder.

Resolved, That a copy of the intercepted letter from John Butler at Niagara, dated the 29th of Feb. be sent to General Schuyler.

Resolved, That a copy of the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the truth and foundation of the story "that the Indians have been invited by Governor Penn to come to Philadelphia" be sent to General Schuyler; and that General Schuyler be directed to cause the person to be arrested, who pretended to have carried such invitation to the Indians.

The committee of claims reported, that

that there is due for the expences of General Lee's guard, the sum of 10.8 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Timothy Matlock.

On a draught drawn by Ephraim Blaine, Esq; on the commissioners for Indian affairs in the Middle Department, in favour of Samuel Semple, the sum of 77 dollars, for expences of the said commissioners, and that the said sum ought to be paid to Robert Miller, Esq; of the county of Cumberland.

For the subsistence of A. Hill Brice, Captain of the 7th regiment of foot of royal fusileers, the sum of 39.5 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Thomas M'Kean, Esq; and charged to the said captain.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

Agreeable to the order of the day, Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the letter from General Washington of the 27th March last, and the papers therein inclosed, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported that the committee had come to a resolution, on the matters referred to them, which he read and delivered in.

The report being again read,

Resolved, That the consideration thereof be postponed.

Information being given to Congress that Allan Cameron, who is confined in goal, is in such a state of health as to require the attendance of a physician, and that he is desirous of the assistance of Doctor Cadwallader.

Resolved, That Doctor Cadwallader have leave to attend him.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Friday, April 26, 1776.*

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to settle and pay to the colony of Connecticut the pow-

der lent by the said Colony to Gen. Washington, for the use of the continent, and to act as they shall judge best for the public service, and the benefit of Connecticut, in exchanging the powder, which the said Colony has in Philadelphia, for powder in the eastern ports belonging to the continent.

Resolved, That 50,000 dollars be sent to the committee of safety of Virginia, and that the president write to the said committee, and request them to use their utmost endeavours to have it exchanged for specie, and remit the same to the continental treasurers; and in case they can procure more specie, that they send it, and draw for the amount on the paymaster in Virginia, who is ordered to pay such draughts.

Resolved, That the sum of 250,000 dollars be sent to the paymaster in Virginia, for the use of the continental troops, he to be accountable.

A letter from Doctor Cadwallader was laid before Congress and read, giving an account of A. Cameron's state of health. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the said A. Cameron be allowed the benefit of air in his room, and of walking an hour every morning in the yard, in company or presence of the jailor, and that his uncle Doctor M'Clean from New-York, who is now in town, be allowed to converse with him in the presence of the jailor.

Edmund Randolph, who was appointed deputy-muster-master-general of the Southern Department, having been chosen by the citizens of Williamsburg to represent them in convention, and an ordinance having been passed, excluding all persons holding any military post of profit from a seat therein, begged leave to resign his office.

Resolved, That the resignation of Mr. Randolph be accepted.

Resolved, That a committee of five

be appointed to take into consideration the state of the Eastern Department, and report thereon.

The members chosen, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Duane.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Doctor Robert Johnson, for attendance on the 6th battalion, and for medicines, the sum of 53.1 dollars.

Ordered, That the said account be paid.

The committee to whom the letters from General Washington of the 22d and 23d inst. were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That the pay of the aids de camp of the commander in chief be raised to forty dollars a month.

Resolved, That none of the troops already raised, be, for the present, disbanded for want of arms; and that the general apply to the convention and committee of safety of New-York for such arms, as may have been collected under the resolve of Congress for disarming non-associators and disaffected persons, or any other arms they can supply, and that they be delivered to the New-York troops.

Resolved, That Mr. Baldwin the assistant engineer ordered to Canada, be allowed, in consideration of his merit, the pay and rank of lieutenant colonel on the continental establishment.

Resolved, That the respective governments, from whence militia have come for the defence of the city of New-York, be desired speedily to transmit to Congress authenticated muster-rolls and accounts of monies due to such respective militias, in order to their being immediately settled and discharged.

Resolved, That Congress approve the assistance given by the general to Commodore Hopkirk.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed till to-morrow.

Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee, on the petition of Colonel James Easton, whereupon,

Resolved, That, the claims of the persons concerned in the surprize and reduction of the fortress of Ticonderoga, having already been submitted by Congress to the committee of Albany, the petitioner be referred to the said committee of Albany for a settlement of his demand on that account.

As from the testimonials produced by the petitioner it appears—that he and his battalion behaved with great diligence, activity and spirit in the successful enterprize against General Prescott, and the vessels and troops under his command in the river Sorell, in which important service they were joined by Colonel Bedel and a part of his regiment—that to encourage the party employed in that important service, the late General Montgomery promised them all the public stores, which should be taken in the vessels under General Prescott's command, excepting ammunition and provisions; and as the petitioner alledges that no part of those stores was delivered, nor any composition made to the troops concerned in the acquisition, therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the general commanding in Canada, to appoint commissioners to estimate all the public stores taken with Gen. Prescott, (excepting ammunition and provisions) and pay the value thereof among the officers and men employed in that service, in such proportions as the commissioners shall determine.

As the petitioner's account of monies received, and disbursements made by him for the use of his regiment, on which he claims a ballance, can, for want of proper vouchers and information here, only be adjusted in  
Canada,

Canada, where the business was transacted.

Resolved, That the same be referred for settlement in such mode as the commissioners from Congress in that province shall direct. But as the petitioner is in want of money.

Resolved, That two hundred dollars be advanced to him in part of his demand against the United Colonies.

With regard to the petitioner's request that a court of inquiry may be called respecting the charge against him, and Major Brown for plundering the effects of the prisoners. As Brigadier-General Arnold in his letter of the 1st of Feb. last alledges, that the petitioner and Major Brown had been publickly accused of plundering the officers baggage taken at Sorell, contrary to the articles of capitulation, and to the great scandal of the American arms; for which reason he declared it to be his opinion, that it would give great disgust to the army in general if either of them should be promoted, until these matters were cleared up; and as the petitioner asserts his innocence, declaring that he neither plundered, nor directed, nor was privy to the plundering of any prisoner or other person whatever. Considering therefore on one hand, the aggravated nature of this charge, which is an impediment to the petitioner's promotion, and on the other, the great confidence reposed in him by Gen. Montgomery, and the essential service which the petitioner has rendered to his country.

Resolved, That the commissioners from Congress in Canada be instructed, to cause inquiry to be made by a court-martial or otherwise, into the charge against the petitioner, giving him an opportunity of making his defence; and that the proceedings thereon be transmitted to Congress, in order that justice may be done to the petitioner, if he has been accused without sufficient reason.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

*Saturday, April 27, 1776.*

Resolved, That an order for 350 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Mr. Edy, of which 250 for himself, and 100 for Isaiah Beaudreau, for services done.

Sundry letters and papers from North-Carolina were laid before Congress and read, viz.

An affidavit respecting the capture of W. Ginn's brig.

A letter from Samuel Johnson, president of the convention dated the 10th instant, inclosing sundry resolves of the said convention, and an extract of a letter from Brigadier-Gen. Moore.

Resolved, That the affidavit be delivered to the secret committee.

That the other papers be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Sherman, and Mr. Alexander.

Congress proceeded to the election of a paymaster-general, in the room of Mr. Warren, whose resignation was accepted, and the ballots being taken and examined,

William Palfrey, Esq; was elected.

Congress also proceeded to the election of a deputy-commissary-general, for supplying the troops in Virginia with rations, and the ballots being taken and examined,

William Aylett, Esq; was elected.

Resolved, That Mr. Rodney and Mr. Read be added to the committee appointed to supply the troops in Philadelphia, and the battalion in the Lower Counties on Delaware.

A memorial from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania was presented to Congress and read.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday.

*Monday, April 29, 1776.*

Sundry letters and papers being received,



ceived, were laid before Congress and read, viz.

A letter of the 25th from General Washington, inclosing a return of the army at New-York.

A letter from Major Wrixon, declining to accept the commission of chief engineer.

A letter from the council of safety of Maryland, with the examination of Alexander Ross, and sundry papers found in his possession.

Resolved, That the letter from General Washington, and the letter from the council of safety of Maryland, with Mr. Ross's papers be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Goldborough, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Rodney,

Also a letter of the 19th from General Lee, and one from Thomas Bullet; and a petition from Doctor J. Potts were read and referred to the said committee.

Resolved, That letters be written by the president to General Schuyler and the committee of safety of New York, desiring them to inform this Congress whether the continental commissions sent to them for the officers and troops raised by Connecticut the last campaign were delivered, or offered to them, or to any, and which of them, and whether any, and which of them refused, or accepted the same; and particularly whether commissions were offered to Colonel Waterbury and Col. Easton, and whether they refused accepting them.

Resolved, That Capt. Peter Adams from Maryland, under whose custody Alexander Ross was brought to Philadelphia be dismissed, and that the said Alexander Ross be committed to the care of the officer commanding the continental troops in Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a standing committee be appointed for Indian affairs; that it consist of five: that the elec-

tion of the members be postponed till to-morrow.

Resolved, That the Congress relying on the integrity and honour of Capt. A. M'Gee, order that he be permitted to go at large on giving his parole to the committee of West-Augusta, not to engage or be concerned in any measure injurious to these Colonies, by stimulating the Indian nations to make war against them or otherwise.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Benjamin Marshall for tin cartouch boxes, the sum of 465 dollars.

To Ephraim Blaine, Esq; for subsistence, waggonage, and ferriages of the 6th Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 27.36 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on General Washington's letter of the 19th, &c. whereupon,

Resolved, That the papers from fort Pitt be referred to the committee appointed, to consider the state of Indian affairs in the Middle Department.

Resolved, That no traders ought to go into the Indian country without license from the agent in the department; and that care be taken by him to prevent exorbitant prices for goods being exacted from the Indians.

Resolved, That a ton of powder be sent to Mr. G. Morgan, to be distributed to such Indians as he shall be convinced are in our interest.

Resolved, That measures be immediately taken to procure goods to supply the Indians at the treaties ordered to be held with them.

Resolved, That the councils of Massachusetts-Bay and New Hampshire, and the governors of Connecticut and Rhode-Island, be earnestly requested to take the most speedy and effectual

equal measures to collect as much money in their respective Colonies as possible, and to send the same as collected to General Schuyler, and draw upon the President of Congress for the amount.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the report, and the several matters to this day referred, be postponed till to-morrow, to which time Congress adjourned.

*Tuesday, April 30, 1776.*

Agreeable to order, Congress proceeded to the election of a standing committee for Indian affairs, when

Mr. Wythe, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Woolcot, Mr. L. Morris, and Mr. Rutledge were elected.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Matthew Swan, for carrying two brass field pieces from Philadelphia to Williamsburg, the sum of 93.6 dollars, over and beside the sum of 80 dollars, paid him by Robert Erwin, and 13.3 dollars, paid by the committee of Williamsburg.

For house rent, carriage, and other contingent expences of the fourth Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 358.6 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Harper, quarter-master of the said battalion.

For provisions for Captain Ross's company, supplied by Charles Jackson, the sum of 9.1 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Timothy Matlock.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial from the committee of inspection and observation of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, praying the advice of Congress, whether they ought to continue the exercise of the power of regulating the price of goods in other instances than that of green tea, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to; whereupon,

Resolved, That the ninth article of the association, which enjoined the inhabitants of the United Colonies to sell goods and merchandize at the rates they had respectively been accustomed to do for twelve months then last past, was in its nature a temporary regulation respecting the goods then on hand; but as those goods are nearly consumed, and a farther supply must be obtained at an extraordinary risque and expence, and it is reasonable that adventurers should be encouraged by a prospect of gain adequate to the danger, which may be incurred in the importation, and a free trade being now opened from the United Colonies to all parts of the world, except the dominions belonging to the King of Great-Britain.

Resolved, That the power of committees of inspection and observation, to regulate the prices of goods, in other instances than the article of green tea, ought to cease:

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on General Washington's letter of the 24th of March; whereupon,

Resolved, That the vessels which were left in the docks and harbour at Boston, by the enemy, and which different persons claim as their property, ought to be restored to their former owners, being inhabitants of these Colonies, on their making proof of their title, unless the said parties so claiming, shall have been voluntarily active against the rights of the United Colonies, by affording aid and assistance to the British fleet and army; and that it be recommended to the government of Massachusetts-Bay to appoint commissioners to hear such claims, and determine on the sufficiency of the proof thereof.

Provided, That any person apprehending himself or herself to be aggrieved by the adjudication of the commissioners, may appeal from their sentence to Congress, such appeal being demanded and lodged with the

secre-

Secretary of Congress, within the  
times limited, and the appellant giv-  
ing security, in the manner prescribed  
in the case of an appeal from the sen-  
tence of a court appointed for hearing  
maritime causes.

Resolved, That the farther con-  
sideration of the report be postponed.

Resolved, That an order for 2000  
dollars be drawn on the treasurers in  
favour of George Evans, who has  
contracted to supply the Delaware  
battalions with rations, he to be ac-  
countable.

The delegates for New-Jersey  
laid before Congress a number of  
bills counterfeited, to imitate the  
continental bills of credit.

Resolved, That a committee of six  
be appointed to consider of this mat-  
ter, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Li-  
vingston, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Sher-  
man, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Braxton,  
and Mr. Duane.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Thurs-  
day,



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